

Arafat visit a 'farce' — Syrian media

DAMASCUS (AFP) — Syria's official media Sunday described Yasser Arafat's visit to the Gaza Strip as a "farce" because Israel was still dictating its terms to the Palestinians. The ruling Baath Party newspaper Al-Baath said Mr. Arafat's return to Gaza Friday after 27 years of exile was "a farce staged by the Israelis." The visit can be described as anything but a victory, liberation or return, because despite Israel's formal withdrawal, Gaza and Jericho are still under Israeli political and military authority. The paper added: "None of the major problems, notably the issue of Palestinian detainees, has been resolved." Al-Baath said the heavy Israeli security presence which accompanied Mr. Arafat's visit showed that "Arafat does not enjoy the confidence of the Palestinian people." In a commentary Syrian state radio said the latest events in the region "cannot lead to peace, because the Palestinian people are still under Israeli authority and self-rule is nothing but a farce which cannot convince anyone. Syria seeks an honourable peace, not a humiliating peace which is a sell-out of the Arabs' rights."

Jordan Times

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2 Israelis said killed in Lebanon

MARIYOUN (AP) — Two Israeli soldiers were killed in South Lebanon Sunday and another two were seriously wounded when an armoured personnel carrier hit an electric wire, a source in the South Lebanese Army (SLA) said. The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the incident occurred at about 7:30 p.m. (16:30 p.m.) as the Israeli vehicle passed by the town of Marakaba, about three kilometres northwest of the Israeli border. The Israeli army had no immediate comment on the report. But an Israeli source speaking on condition of anonymity said the soldiers died apparently as a result of an accident and not an attack. The incident occurred on the edge of a border enclave Israel occupies in South Lebanon as a "security zone." The zone covers 1,100 square kilometres that stretches from the Mediterranean coast 80 kilometres inland to the foothills of Mount Hermon. The enclave is routinely patrolled by 1,200 Israeli troops and 2,500 of Israel's surrogate militia, the South Lebanon Army.

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More Israelis back peace accord

TEL AVIV (AFP) — A growing number of Israelis support the peace accord with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) which launched Palestinian self-rule and object to Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to a survey published Sunday. Thirty-nine per cent of people questioned in June were in favour of the Israeli-PLO accord, while 37 per cent were against and 24 per cent were undecided. In December, 36 per cent of Israelis said they supported the autonomy deal signed in Washington in September. The number of Israelis against maintaining Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza rose from 26 per cent in December to 34 per cent in June. Meanwhile 59 per cent of Israelis favoured further talks with PLO while 31.5 per cent were against and the rest undecided. Only five per cent of Israelis sampled supported a total withdrawal from the Golan Heights, while 20 per cent favoured a partial withdrawal from the strategic plateau. The survey of 1,100 Israeli Jews was carried out by the Modin Ezrahi Institute of public opinion. It was published by the Centre for Strategic Studies at Bar Ilan Religious university near Tel Aviv.

Israel blocks Aqsa visitors

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Police have blocked visitors from the Haram Al Sharif complex as a preventive measure against violence during Yasser Arafat's visit to autonomous Palestinian territories. The three-day closure, which began Saturday, applies only to visitors. Muslims "can go in freely" to worship at Al Aqsa Mosque, police said. "This is just a preventive measure" for the Arafat visit, a police spokesman said. "It has been done in the past when tensions get high to prevent any thing from happening." Israeli right-wingers have vowed to block Mr. Arafat if he comes to pray at Al Aqsa during his historic visit to the autonomous territories, which began Friday.

Ekeus due in Iraq

BAHRAIN (AP) — Swedish disarmament expert Rolf Ekeus arrived Sunday en route to Baghdad for talks with Iraqi officials amid work by U.N. inspectors in Iraq establishing programmes for long-term arms monitoring. Mr. Ekeus is chief of the U.N. Special Commission which oversees the destruction of Iraq's weapons and is establishing monitoring systems to ensure Baghdad does not regain possession of its arsenal. He would not comment to the news media during an overnight stop in Bahrain, the commission's regional headquarters. Regional chief Raouf Opsahl said Mr. Ekeus would leave early Monday for Baghdad. Iraq has been pressing for an end to the embargo on its vital oil exports, imposed by the U.N. Security Council after its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Protesters attack German police

BERLIN (AP) — Police stations and vehicles in at least four German cities were damaged during the weekend amid protests against shooting death of a 16-year-old Kurd in Hanover. Hanover police said a policeman shot the boy accidentally late Thursday after a police patrol came upon a group of Kurdish youths putting up posters for the banned Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK). A police officer caught only one of the fleeing youths but dropped his revolver during a struggle with the 16-year-old. He recovered the gun and then tripped and unintentionally pulled the trigger, and the bullet hit the Kurdish youth in the back, according to Hanover police.

Northerners edge towards Aden as U.N. sounds alarm

Combined agency dispatches

U.N. OFFICIALS Sunday warned of alarming health hazards across impoverished, war-torn Yemen as northern forces continued their advance on Aden, stronghold of the breakaway south, under cover of heavy artillery and rocket fire. Northern forces are now entrenched on the northern edge of Dar Saad, a southern-held Aden suburb, marking a four-kilometre advance since Thursday. Bullets whizzed past northern soldiers as they crouched in the shade of a half-built house only 500 metres from the southern line outside Dar Saad. A northern tank opened up with canon and machinegun fire while a truck-mounted anti-aircraft gun lowered its barrel and blasted enemy positions. The city also was under heavy northern Katyusha rocket shelling, according to the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA). At least 10 people, including four children, were killed Sunday morning in northern shelling of Khormaksar, a post-northeastern Aden suburb, said KUNA, which has a correspondent in Aden.

Northern rockets also targeted Aden's airport and started fires at the facility, according to KUNA, monitoring in Bahrain.

Security concerns delay Arafat entry to Jericho

Combined agency dispatches

PALESTINIAN LEADER Yasser Arafat, fearing enraged Jewish protesters, delayed his visit to Jericho, capital of the Palestinian self-rule government, to allow more security arrangements, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials said Sunday.

One of Mr. Arafat's advisers said he had become more concerned about security after thousands of right-wing Israelis turned out for anti-Arafat demonstrations in Jerusalem. Another aide said the PLO leader also had to wait for Egyptian helicopters to take him to Jericho, which is across Israeli territory from Gaza. Other reports said Israel was providing a helicopter.

While his aides worried about security for the trip now set for Tuesday, Mr. Arafat went on with his schedule tirelessly.

Despite few hours of sleep, he inaugurated a citrus plant, meeting Arab-Israelis, lunched with U.N. officials and diplomats and addressing well-wishers from throughout the West Bank.

Mr. Arafat said in remarks published Sunday that his visit to the Gaza Strip was an historic event for peace.

"It's an historic event not only for me and my people but also for the peace of the brave that I signed with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin," Mr. Arafat said in an interview with the Israeli right-wing newspaper Maariv.

"Everything is destroyed here," Mr. Arafat told the newspaper at the Palestine Hotel in the Gaza Strip. "There is no water, no drainage, no hospitals, no homes,

but morale is high, to my great surprise." Mr. Arafat said he was astonished that Israel could be afraid of the Palestinians. "Israel has the strongest army in the Middle East. It's the sole nuclear power in the region. What does it have to fear from a nascent Palestinian state which needs a good 30 years to build its foundation and find its equilibrium?" He said he respected Mr. Rabin, with whom he signed the May 4 accord launching limited Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank town of Jericho and the Gaza Strip. "I really respect him. The task was not easy but what we have accomplished is not banal," he said.

The PLO leader said he also hoped to recover the social insurance deductions

Aden sets truce

SOUTHERN YEMENI leaders announced a ceasefire to begin at midnight (2100 GMT) on Sunday in a statement broadcast by Aden Television. The ceasefire is the first to be declared unilaterally by the breakaway Yemen Democratic Republic (YDR) in the two-month civil war. The statement said the ceasefire was "in response to the appeal by Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa on the same day for the warring parties to halt fighting." Northern authorities have called five ceasefires in the war, but all have collapsed within hours. A joint ceasefire signed by north and south in Moscow Thursday — the sixth in the war — collapsed amid a renewed bombardment of Aden Friday.

On Saturday, northern shelling of Aden suburbs killed 35 people, including 13 children, KUNA reported, citing what it said were hospital statistics. The news agency said more than 55 rockets fell on Khormaksar alone. KUNA described Khormaksar as an elite area where diplomatic missions

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are located. Thousands are believed to have died in Yemen's civil war, which erupted May 4, with hundreds reported dead from the north's sustained attacks on Aden over the last several weeks. The city's population of 350,000 swollen with tens of thousands of war refugees, lacks supplies of food, water, fuel and electricity.

Aden is the last major stronghold of southern forces who lost most of their self-proclaimed secessionist republic to a northern push in the early weeks of the two-month civil war.

Yemen's war erupted May 4 over a rift between northern President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his vice president, Ali Salem Al Beidh, the southern leader.

Mr. Beidh declared the south's return to independence May 20, breaking Yemen's four-year experiment with unity and democracy. The May 1990 unification of conservative, tribal North Yemen and socialist South Yemen had created the Arab World's youngest democracy and the Arabian Peninsula's most populous state with 14 million people.

On Aden's western front, northern forces have pushed to the deserted village of Al

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Sweden-3; S. Arabia-1

DALLAS (AFP) — The Saudi World Cup mirage disappeared in the Texas midday sun when Sweden easily won their second round clash 3-1 here on Sunday.

The Saudis, who had surprised everyone by making it through the opening round, thanks mainly to a upset 1-0 win over Belgium, simply ran out of ideas.

Before the match Martin Dahlin said the Swedes had watched videos of all Saudi Arabia's three first round games.

Photo shows Swedish midfielder Jonas Thern (left) attempting to get through a block by Saudi Arabia's forward Saeed Owairan during action in their match (See page 10)



Challenges of peace warrant strenuous efforts — King

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday praised the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) for what he said was its unique role in promoting the march of economic development in the Middle East region.

In an address delivered on his behalf by Lower House of Parliament Speaker Taher Al Masri, the King said Jordan had always sought to enhance cooperation with the U.N. agency in a manner that would contribute to the benefit of the whole region.

The King's address was delivered at the opening of a five-day regional conference organised by FAO at the Forte Grand Hotel in Amman attended by 180 representatives of regional and international organisations.

This conference assumes special importance being held in the midst of a region undergoing substantial transformations and regional and international political and economic developments that would leave their impact on the region for generations to come, the King said in his address.

Perhaps the main development is the emergence of a new world order operating through new standards and by economic and political instruments unknown to this region at a time when political and economic blocs in

Europe and North America are emerging on the scene, the King said.

"These developments have surfaced in the post-cold war era and are designed to create what is called 'peace economy', but they at the same time confront our countries with social, economic and political pressures and constitute a serious challenge to them forcing them to work with strenuous efforts to deal with any adverse effects on their economies and well-being," the King added.

The conflicts that raged in this region over the past few decades, have caused devastation to much of the countries' infrastructure and wasted many material and human resources which otherwise could have been used in socio-economic development, the King pointed out.

The region's conflict, the King said, have caused a decline in economic growth and brought about a retreat in the agricultural sector with the result that food production has declined in most of the countries while other factors had had their negative impact on natural resources.

He said the harm done to the land forced the residents of the rural areas to abandon their land and move to urban regions, placing heavy pressure on the services sector

inside the cities and creating new social and economic problems.

The King expressed his appreciation of FAO's efforts to promote sustainable development in the dry regions, noting that the Middle East has probably the largest desert and dry lands in the world with meagre water resources. He wished the conference success.

In his keynote address at the first working session, FAO Director General Jacques Diouf said that a new agricultural revolution was needed in order to feed one billion new mouths by the year 2000 and an additional four billion in the year 2030.

Mr. Diouf said that for the new revolution to succeed, it has to be productive, sustainable and equitable.

The agricultural revolution has to make effective use of scientific and technical progress, safeguard and preserve natural resources and assure a fair social division of the fruits of growth, he said.

Despite natural resources constraints and often adverse climatic conditions, there was still considerable potential for increasing yields in the region and this potential must be tapped urgently through appropriate policies and measures, Dr. Diouf said.

The FAO chief stressed the importance of strengthening

the organisation's leading role in controlling and eradicating transboundary diseases and pests through a new "emergency prevention system" which would concentrate initially on combating locusts and tinderpests.

Dr. Diouf said FAO intends to convene a world food summit in Rome in 1996 to raise awareness on world food issues at the highest level and to obtain a political commitment for action geared towards world food security.

According to an FAO statement, issues to be considered by the Amman conference include a strategy for sustainable dry land development, the impact of structural adjustment programmes on agricultural and rural development and the representation of the region in the consultative group on international agricultural research.

The conference will review the agricultural situation in member countries and will consider and agree on a strategy for sustainable dry land development in the Near East.

The delegates will review preparations for the world food summit due to be held in Canada in 1996 and a draft declaration on food and agriculture to be issued by that summit.

Rabin blasts 'radical' Israeli rightists for anti-Arafat fervour

ISRAELI PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin said on Sunday he would strengthen his peace deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) despite mass protests by the Israeli right-wing against PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's landmark visit to Gaza.

Mr. Rabin, in one of his toughest attacks on what he called Israel's "radical right," said settlers had "deserted" their settlements to protest in Jerusalem instead of remaining in the occupied territories to help the army protect their children.

"The (peace) process will continue," he pledged in a speech to members of his Labour Party.

"Arafat's coming to Gaza is part of the (self-rule) agreement. We have an interest in strengthening the elements among the Palestinians that want the accord," he said.

Hours earlier, hundreds of Israelis — many of them settlers from the occupied West Bank — battled police outside a meeting of Mr. Rabin's cabinet.

The protesters, who oppose returning land seized by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war, set up a makeshift tent camp opposite the prime minister's office. They banged on pans and blew whistles, aiming to be heard

by ministers at the weekly cabinet meeting.

Police said they arrested at least 65 protesters who tried to block roads. The crowd booed and shouted "Nazis" at police.

Thousands of police deployed throughout the Holy City in a large internal security operation.

Mr. Rabin told the Labour Party forum he was "sorry to see the settlers in their thousands in Jerusalem."

He accused the Likud, the main opposition right-wing party, of trying to fool the public into thinking he was soft on keeping Israeli control over all of Jerusalem.

"I do not need any seal of approval about Jerusalem from anyone in the Likud," said Mr. Rabin.

Mr. Rabin meanwhile cancelled a meeting scheduled for Sunday in Gaza between 10 Labour Party deputies and Mr. Arafat, "because circumstances did not lend themselves to it," delegation head Yossi Katz said.

Rumours that Mr. Arafat planned to make a pilgrimage to holy sites in the city during his current trip to Gaza and Jericho brought tens of thousands of right-wing demonstrators to Jerusalem over the weekend.

In a likely sign of things to come, ahead of Mr. Arafat's planned visit to Jericho on

Tuesday, settlers tried to block traffic on the road from Jerusalem on Sunday.

Witnesses said Jewish children spat at Arab vehicles.

On Saturday night tens of thousands of Israelis crammed the city's Zion square chanting "Death to Arafat" and "Rabin is a traitor (see page 12)."

Commenting on the protests, Mr. Arafat said in Gaza: "There are people in Israel who love peace. We shall stand with them and they shall stand with us. Together we shall pray in Jerusalem."

An opinion poll made public last week by the Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan university near Tel Aviv showed 59 per cent of Israelis backed direct and public negotiations with the PLO in the current situation.

Several people were also arrested when hundreds of right-wingers tried to enter the Muslim quarter of Jerusalem and clashed with police, who resorted to using tear-gas, authorities said.

Fighting also broke out between local Palestinian residents and right-wingers who damaged cars and broke windows in the city centre.

The incidents followed a 10,000-strong rally where

(Continued on page 12)

Kabul quiet ahead of OIC visit

KABUL (AFP) — After a week of fierce fighting and massive exchange of heavy artillery fire, Kabul was unusually quiet Sunday, a few days before the expected visit of a peace mission from the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

No jets were active and neither side traded rocket fire over the city, although there were some minor artillery exchanges around the frontlines.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Najibullah Lafrate said the peace delegation, led by OIC Secretary General Hamid Al Ghabad, might arrive in the capital Tuesday but their itinerary had not yet been confirmed.

The OIC, which was given a ceasefire monitoring role in the Islamabad peace accord of March 1993, was "welcome" to visit Kabul, Mr. Lafrate said.

"Whatever cooperation the OIC can extend to helping Afghans solve their problems for themselves would be appreciated," the minister told AFP.

The visit of the OIC chief, who arrived in the Pakistani capital Saturday, follows the June 28 expiry of the 18-month tenure of both the president and prime minister allowed under the multi-party Islamabad accord.

Arafat speaks of the dead to win over the living

JABALIYA, Gaza (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, on the first full day of his euphoric return to Gaza, spoke of the dead and of prisoners to win the sympathy of the living.

"I tell my martyr brothers a vow is a vow and a pledge is a pledge. I say to your families, your wives, your children and brothers 'you are in our hearts and minds,'" Mr. Arafat said during a visit to the Jabaliya refugee camp on Saturday.

Mr. Arafat, symbol of Palestinian struggle for years, journeyed to the sprawling refugee camp — birthplace of the uprising against Israel seven years ago — a day after he returned to Palestinian-controlled lands after 27 years in exile.

"We remember our prisoners... the prisoners are a national Palestinian issue. We remember our wounded heroes, especially the disabled who are also in our minds and hearts," Mr. Arafat told a cheering crowd of about 5,000.

"My brothers the dawn of freedom is near," Mr. Arafat told his people who raised their hands with signs of victory as he spoke — a sign they had borrowed from their cherished leader.

Wearing his olive-green military fatigues, he ordered his 12-car security convoy to step outside the shack of Imad Akei, a 23-year-old Hamas guerrilla leader killed by Israeli troops last year, and prayed for his soul to rest.

He stopped at the square of the camp, home for some 60,000 Palestinians, and paid tribute to guerrillas who were shot dead there by Israeli forces at the start of the uprising.

He stood on the first floor of a public school flanked by scores of police to make his speech. Snipers were on the watch on rooftops and policemen mingled with people to curb the chaos that erupted after he crossed into Gaza from Egypt on Friday.

Even Akei's 67-year-old father Hassan, whose son was a staunch opponent of Mr. Arafat's peace agreement with Israel, came to celebrate the Palestinian leader's long-awaited return.

"We hope to see good achieved at the hands of Abu Anwar. It is true that our son is dear but Imad is a martyr for Palestine. He is in paradise now. I am very proud of him," the father said.

Yet the shadows of the dead marred the joy for many people.

"I was hoping that before he came, to visit he would secure the release of all the prisoners. I was living on the hope of seeing my brother before Arafat," said Hasna Al Qadi, who has two brothers in Israeli jails.

"Had he freed the prisoners and come back, that would have been fine but what good did he do us?" Mr. Arafat has cast aside his trademark rhetoric of revolutionary ideals for the pragmatic language of a statesman, calling for "patience, reason and effort."

Mr. Arafat chose Jabaliya, the toughest and biggest of the strip's refugee camps, to sound a warning of hard times ahead and to urge the Palestinians to face up to "the great challenge of building the homeland, of building the Palestinian authority."

"Our very survival is at stake," he warned. "The question is, can we build our authority with our own resources?"

After the euphoria of his return on Friday, he received a stream of diplomats, sheikhs, businessmen, Arabs from Israel and of course his own men from the Fatah movement. Ten members of the Israeli parliament were also in the queue at the seaford Palestine Hotel.

"We must have patience and reason. We have signed as men the peace of the brave with Israel and we have to show we are capable of honouring our commitments by establishing first our authority and then building our state," he told a group of Palestinian industrialists.

The first meeting of his ministers in Gaza City on Friday night was also dominated by the economic crisis.

The importance of raising taxes and economic self-reliance were the key themes. Mr. Arafat made it clear to the crowds in Jabaliya that he had returned with empty pockets, having refused demands for clear accounting measures set by the World Bank for handing over aid money.

"But we will build this country with our feeble means," he vowed.

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HOPES: Thousands of Palestinians raise their hands to cheer Yasser Arafat as he visited to Jabaliya camp in Gaza Strip on Saturday (AFP photo)

Arafat needs jobs to stave off politics

By John West
Reuters

GAZA — Yasser Arafat kept politics and economics strictly separate on his first tumultuous day back in Gaza but he may not be able to do so for long.

Mr. Arafat on Friday addressed an ecstatic rally of Gazans where he talked of returning to Jerusalem, freeing prisoners, national unity and the future Palestinian state. All of them, he said, would come with time and security.

Later that night, he used a briefing with Arab journalists to appeal to Arab countries and the world to provide the funds needed for jobs, development and quick economic growth.

His dilemma is that to get the economy of impoverished Gaza and Jericho moving he needs Israel and the international community and they do not share his political goals.

If he fails to deliver the economic goods, even his most ardent supporters say he can expect trouble from a restless population.

"For 50 years the Palestinians were rejectionist. Now they are beginning to accept there can be a solution with Israel. But everything depends on the economic side — we need donor money," said Mohammad Yazji, head of Gaza's Federation of Industry.

The owner of a soft-drink bottling factory and one of Gaza's largest private employers, Mr. Yazji stood beside Mr. Arafat as he spoke on Friday and was impressed by the enthusiasm of the crowds.

"Arafat's visit was a referendum and elections in one. We have succeeded politically. But to finish off the opposition, we need to get the people working," he added.

Khaled Fayyad, an independent economic researcher, put it more harshly: "In two or three months the crowds you saw praising Arafat yesterday could abandon him if there are no jobs."

Insiders say Mr. Arafat's focus on politics, to the exclusion of economics, was not a coincidence. Before speaking, he asked advisers in Gaza what the mood of the people was to gauge what he should talk about.

It was largely defensive, reflecting that most Palestinians are impatient to see Gaza-Jericho turn into something bigger.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) would never make concessions on Palestinian prisoners, Mr. Arafat said, and would push until statehood and a return to Jerusalem as their capital — even though Israel says self-rule is only autonomy and not statehood and sees Jerusalem as its "eternal capital."

Self-rule has got off to a slow start in the past six weeks largely because donors have been reluctant to finance the Palestinian National Authority's budget needs.

Donors promised \$60 million this week but it will need a dramatic speed-up of funding to make a visible impact on the wrecked economy of Gaza, a squalid stretch of refugee camps and slum housing.

United Nations agencies put unemployment at 45 per cent but other researchers think it may be higher. The teeming strip's infrastructure is crumbling and needs billions to repair it.

If the Cairo agreement retained Israel's political dominance, analysts say economic development is not likely to be much different.

"In pure economic terms, the Palestinians' best option remains linkage with Israel. But that carries a price many are unwilling to pay politically," said Alex Pollock, a development officer at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, which runs the refugee camps.

Nasser Siraj, another leading businessman, said he had spent all his business life dealing with Israelis and was ready for change.

"Psychologically, I can say I am tired of the Israelis," he said. "If I have any other chance, any chance at all, to deal with Egypt or the Arabs, I will take it even if it earns me less."

In his appeal to donors on Friday, Mr. Arafat said his people, who had made so many sacrifices in the past, could put up with hunger if need be to build their state.

But few Gazans seem to agree with him.

"It's not just a question of jobs and money. I have not had a proper job for years but I still say we must have Jerusalem," said Mohammad Farouki, a graduate in agricultural engineering from Shaal refugee camp.

"We made ourselves poorer in the past, during the intifada. But that was for Palestine, not Gaza and Jericho."

gunners kept up an artillery barrage of Aden.

Abdul Rahman Al Jifri, vice-president of the break-away southern state, told Aden Television: "The United Nations has not carried out its full responsibilities."

"The Security Council has yet not taken any positive or decisive steps... we urge it to take quick measures."

Hospital sources said six people were killed and 60 were wounded on Saturday when northern shells landed in residential areas of Aden.

A southern statement said shells also hit the British and Omani consulates as well as the U.N. mission.

A Yemeni oil ministry official said the north's only producing oil field, damaged in a southern air raid on Thursday, would yield no more crude until a key pumping station was fixed.

The two sides have made conflicting claims on how close the northerners are to Aden. But it has become clear that northern forces have penetrated some of the outlying suburbs.

Dr. Ghali had said: "There is no water in Aden any more. The people are fighting over water in front of the few wells where only small quantities of water, often not fit for human consumption, are available."

The United Nations has issued two resolutions urging an end to the war. But its efforts seemed in vain as battles continued and northern

between north and south on May 4 were also desperately short of water.

Northern Yemen, apparently responding to an appeal by U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali not to let Aden's people die of thirst, said it sent engineers and Red Cross teams to repair water installations near the city.

The south said repair efforts failed. A statement blamed the north's "insistence on continuing its annihilation of our people."

Northern Yemeni forces are trying to crush former Marxist southern leaders in Aden who, after the war broke out following a political crisis, ended a four-year-old merger by announcing on May 21 they had seceded from United Yemen.

Fresh water stopped flowing to Aden three weeks ago when northern shells damaged a main supply installation. A ceasefire arranged by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to enable repairs to be carried out collapsed earlier this week.

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Prime minister briefs Cabinet on King's visit to U.S.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Sunday briefed the Cabinet on the outcome of His Majesty King Hussein's visit to the United States and his talks with President Bill Clinton.

The prime minister noted that the visit and the talks resulted in Washington fully understanding Jordan's position and needs in light of the ongoing peace process, according to a statement read out on Jordan Television.

Dr. Majali reviewed with the ministers the various topics which the King had discussed with the U.S. administration, stressing that the King emphasised Jordan's quest for a just peace in the region.

Jordan Television quoted Information Minister Jawad Anani as saying after the meeting that Jordan has reaffirmed its stand with regard to the peace process during the King's visit to Washington.

The King has stressed in his talks in Washington that the peace process produces good benefits for all, but these benefits can only be realised under an umbrella of a comprehensive and just peace.

Dr. Anani said King Hussein reiterated Jordan's keenness to attain a comprehensive peace on all tracks thus reaffirming the Kingdom's rejection of any separate deals with Israel.

He said Jordan presented its needs as a result of the peace process and urged the

world community to recognise and assist in helping the country through its economic hardships in order to contribute to the peace process.

Dr. Anani said Jordan was clear in explaining that it would be difficult for the country to shoulder the cost of peace while continuing to repay debts and implement an economic restructuring programme.

The U.S. Administration, said Dr. Anani, has clearly pledged to play a leading role in providing Jordan with economic assistance and backing the Kingdom's quest at the Paris Club meeting which has eventually resulted in the rescheduling of 1,200 million in debts and an agreement on settling them over a 25-year period with a 10-year grace period.

He said this means that the Kingdom would not be shouldering the burdens of debt in the short term.

Referring to Jordan's debts to the United States, the ministers said they amount to \$950 million of which \$250 million were in the form of U.S. guarantees for Jordan's imports.

But, he said, it would require long debates in U.S. Congress to cancel any of these debts, and President Clinton has promised that Congress would be arriving at a decision in this concern.

Furthermore, the minister said the U.S. administration expressed readiness to make special arrangements to narrow the deficit in the balance

of trade between the United States and Jordan by allowing Jordan to increase its exports to American markets.

Mr. Anani said Jordan's potential role in the region has been stressed. Its geographic location and its technological, economic, educational, cultural and human resources capacities qualify it to play an active role in the regional building process, Dr. Anani added.

He said Jordan's concern for and interest in forming a regional economic bloc, and its conviction that it can play an active regional role has also been stressed.

The Minister also said the Cabinet discussed the latest decision by the United Nations to move the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) headquarters from Vienna to Gaza as a result of the pressures on UNRWA's budget.

Dr. Anani said the Jordanian government does not object to this decision, which might be positive if it was deemed to stress the rights of the Palestinian refugees.

Dr. Anani said that Jordan's prime concern is to keep the issue of the refugees alive and to ensure the continuity of UNRWA's role.

He said UNRWA cannot relinquish its responsibilities towards the Palestinian refugees unless their issue is resolved in accordance with the United Nations resolutions which called for repatriation or compensation.



GIFT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION: Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Sunday receives a cheque in the amount of JD 3,000, representing the contribution of the Pakistani Ladies Society to the Young Muslim Women's Association (YMWA) Special Education Centre. The cheque was delivered to Princess Sarvath by Christian Afridi, wife of the Pakistani ambassador to Jordan, during a meeting at the Royal Court attended by members of the administrative committee of the Pakistani Ladies Society.

The association organised a fund-raising event on June 16 at the Philadelphia Hotel for the benefit of the Special Education Centre of the YMWA. The association plans to organise such events on an annual basis to collect funds for the centre. Princess Sarvath expressed appreciation to the society for its efforts and generous contribution and wished its members every success and progress (Petra photo)

Ministry to draft new teachers union law

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education Sunday said that it was drafting a teachers union law that would not be in violation of any article of Constitution and would enable teachers to promote their profession and conduct union activities.

The announcement was made by Abdullah Abu Radwan, director of the ministry's information department one month after it was announced at the government and Parliament had failed to get approval for an earlier draft law on the union from the Higher Council for the Interpretation of the Constitution (HCIC).

The HCIC had said that a union for teachers employed by government schools would be unconstitutional since these teachers are civil servants.

The government had sent a draft law on teachers union to the Lower House of Parliament which approved it and referred it to the Upper House.

The HCIC had said that Article 120 of the Constitution limits legislation pertaining to civil servants to the government.

According to Mr. Abu Radwan, special technical committees are at work drafting a law that would conform to Article 120 of the Constitution.

The ministry has sent out documents pertaining to this issue to various departments of education in Jordan inviting recommendations and proposals to the new draft law.

Symposium to review product quality laws

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An international symposium opening today under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will discuss the quality of products with regard to consumer and environmental policies, focusing on legal aspects and practical actions.

According to Bashir Zoubi, the symposium's rapporteur, working papers to be reviewed by the participants cover a general overview of instruments, promoting the quality and safety of products with regard to consumer and environmental protection, import-export of dangerous products, control and enforcement systems, standardisation and certification processes, and consumer education.

Several experts from German, Swiss, Dutch, Egyptian, and Jordanian universities and research centres will

address the three-day meeting which has been organised by the University of Jordan and the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium, in cooperation with the Legal Institute of Communication of the University of Coimbra in Portugal.

Dr. Zoubi said the symposium, which will be held at the Forte Grand Hotel in Amman, will discuss ways of orienting consumers on selecting commodities and contributing to safeguarding the environment from pollution with the help of the Jordanian Consumer Protection Society.

He said the meeting will end on July 6 with a roundtable discussion entitled: "Is there a market for environmentally safe products globally and nationally?"

Dr. Zoubi added that the meeting was prepared in conjunction with European universities under a special programme financed by the European Union (EU).

India team ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Seven members of an Indian business team Sunday concluded a three-day visit to Jordan during which they held talks with Jordanian officials and representatives of the private sector on means of enhancing commercial exchange.

Prior to departure, the team held two separate meetings with Vice Chairman and members of Amman Chamber of Industry Abdul Ilah Tabbaa and Jordan Businessmen's Association Vice Chairman Fakhri Bilbeisi and members.

Talks with the chamber members centred on enhancing economic and trade relations between both countries, by increasing the volume of commercial exchange, setting up joint or individual investment projects and encouraging joint investments in the field of fertilisers, clothing, small and medium size industries and food industries.

Mr. Tabbaa said that joint Jordanian-Indian investments in the area of fertilisers will pave the way for setting up various industrial investment projects.

Aqaba plant expansion part of long-term JEA drive to meet rising demand

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan has dusted off a \$300 million plan to double the installed capacity of the 130-megawatt thermal power station at Aqaba and has invited international offers for the supply, erection and commissioning of the addition.

The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA), the state-run monopoly, has secured foreign financing for the project.

The loans came from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (\$115 million), the Japanese government (\$45 million) and the Islamic Development Bank (amount in he determined).

The authority also keeping the door open for further financing by inviting two separate offers: one technical and the other for financing.

Part of the already available financing will be used to build the Aqaba part of the linkage between the power grids of Jordan and Egypt as the forerunner of

a regional network that would eventually include all the Arab countries east of the Suez Canal — Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — as well as Turkey before the year 2,000. Studies have been conducted on the project and the feasibility of the linkage has already been established.

The World Bank is offering an \$80 million loan to help improve the efficiency of the country's energy sectors. The Japanese government will match the loan with a similar loan. The credit is expected to be partially used in the energy sector and release tied-down funds to help the country's overall balance of payments, officials say.

With the expansion at the Aqaba plant, Jordan's total installed capacity will be raised to 1,136 megawatts and the JEA share of it to 1,026 megawatts.

The expansion project was shelved in 1990 when Jordan found commercial

gas deposits at Al Rishah on the border with Iraq.

However, with the increase in demand brought about by the return home of more than 300,000 expatriates in the wake of the Gulf crisis, the project had to be revived to meet projected requirements by the year 1997, JEA officials say.

The country produced a total of 4,761 gigawatts of power (JEA — 3,938 gigawatts and private industries the rest) in 1993, and 3,981 gigawatts were consumed, registering an increase of 8.4 per cent over 1992. The rate in consumption growth reflected a steady decline since the early 80s, when it was close to 15 to 17 per cent before declining to 6.7 per cent in 1990.

The growth rate of demand in 1992 was 15.2 per cent after a negative growth of one per cent in 1991.

In 1993, the industrial sector accounted for 36.4 per cent of the total power consumed in the country, followed by domestic consumers with 29.9 per cent, the commercial sector with

10.7 per cent, water pumping with 17.6 per cent and others (street lighting etc.) with a combined total of 5.4 per cent.

It is estimated that the country would have a growth rate in demand for power of eight per cent in 1994, seven per cent in 1995, 7.4 per cent in 1996, 5.1 per cent in 2,000, and 3.6 per cent in 2005. This means demand reaching 1,397 megawatts in the year 2000.

Today, the JEA has an installed capacity of 590 megawatts of steam turbines, 40 megawatts of diesel engines, 140 megawatts of diesel-run gas turbines, 90 megawatts of natural gas turbines, 6 megawatts of hydroelectric unit.

Average per capita consumption was 1,136 kilowatts in 1993. Jordan boasts 98.9 per cent coverage of all its population and 97 per cent of the rural population.

The country supplied 46 gigawatts of power to Syria in 1993 through a grid linkage established in the mid-80s.

Other main features of the energy sector in Jordan are: The Kingdom, which is implementing an economic restructuring programme prescribed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), is under pressure to revise the tariffs to reflect more realistically the actual costs. Tariff rises which are expected to be announced will be based on block rates — meaning subscribers with low consumption will pay lower costs and those with high consumption will pay more per kilowatt of power consumed.

The average cost per kilowatt sold in 1993 was 25.18 fils; the fuel component in the cost was 13.81 fils.

The JEA, which has run up losses since its inception, is undergoing a revamping under which it will become a fully commercial entity subject to the rules and regulations of the comptroller of companies. Until now, the JEA was a semi-autonomous government entity working under the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

Road collision kills 1, injures 11 in Irbid area

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — One person was killed and 11 injured, including a 10-year-old child listed in critical condition, early Sunday morning in a bus accident in Al Mazrah area near Al Mazrah town in Irbid, police and Civil Defence Department (CDD) reports said.

A police official told the Jordan Times that the accident occurred when a pickup truck driver, attempting to turn left, swerved too far in that direction and hit an oncoming bus on a one-lane road.

Captain Mamoun Halasah, an engineer at the Traffic Department who investigated the accident, told the Jordan Times that the truck driver was alone, while the bus was transporting 11 passengers, eight of whom were mem-

bers of the same family. The bus was heading from Irbid to the West Bank, the official added.

"The accident was the pickup driver's fault for not staying in his own lane, and our investigations proved that the bus was driving within the speed limit," Capt. Halasah said.

According to the report, the bus driver, Adel M. Tayeh (45) was killed instantly. The injured, who were taken to Abu Obaidah Hospital in Irbid, are Muhssen Thiahi (the truck driver), Manal, Amal, Fatmeh, Dnaa, Manar, Muna, Kalthoum and Mohammad. Abdul Malek (all from one family and aged between 10-20), Rafikah Ibrahim (45), and Reem Mahmoud (25).

The attending doctor at the hospital told the Jordan Times that five of the victims were transferred to Princess Basma Hospital in Irbid, while the rest are

expected to be released today.

This is the fifth reported accident involving passenger buses in the country since May 1 when 10 people were killed and 15 injured on the Madaba-Amman road. A week later, 18 people were injured in a bus accident in Al Karak. And Sunday police reported that a 6-year-old child (Nadia Arabi Orani) died as a result of injuries sustained in the Amman-Irbid road accident on June 27 that had so far claimed the lives of 31 individuals.

His Majesty King Hussein delegated Amman and Irbid governors Tala' Nawaiesh and Fayez Abbadi to visit patients injured in last week's accident.

The King asked Mr. Nawaiesh and Mr. Abbadi to convey his regards to the patients and his best wishes

for their speedy recovery.

The patients and their families voiced their appreciation of the King's gesture and wished him continued good health and happiness.

Man dies in accidental shooting

A Tafleeh man (27) was killed Saturday after being accidentally shot by a youth in Jarf Al Darawesh area in Tafleeh, police reports showed.

According to the report, the youth (17), who was not identified by police, was cleaning his father's gun in his tent when a bullet was accidentally fired striking the other man in the face. The victim was also not identified.

The man was rushed to a nearby hospital, but was dead on arrival.

Youth drowns in pool

Also on Saturday, a 14-year-old youth drowned in a public pool in Al Bayader area in Amman, CDD reports said.

The victim's brother told police that he was teaching his younger brother how to swim. He said that he left the pool area for five minutes while his brother was in the pool with an inflated rubber tire; when he returned he discovered his brother floating face-down.

"Police reports said the two were swimming alone in the pool when the incident happened."

The youth was taken to King Hussein Medical Centre by a CDD rescue team; the attending doctor said the youth died as a result of heart and lung failure.

Psychiatry versus societal 'taboos'

By Natasha Bukhari
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Although 15-20 per cent of any country's population requires psychiatric treatment, less than one-third of that percentage of Jordanians actually takes the first step to visit a psychiatrist's clinic because of societal "taboos," say some of Jordan's leading psychiatrists.

Anxiety, depression, schizophrenia, drug addiction, sexual problems and eating disorders are suffered by a good number of Jordanians who choose to ignore such problems because of a lack of awareness, low standard of education and cultural inhibitions, according to Waleed Sarhan, a well-known Jordanian psychiatrist.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Sarhan said there are various reasons behind the "stigma" attached to psychiatry, causing people to fear and thus dismiss this "rapidly developing science."

Mental disorders are caused by many factors to which every person is exposed, said the doctor, who believes that this should be more of a reason for people to take psychiatry seriously.

Such disorders are caused by "social, environmental, biological and genetic factors," he said, discounting the common misconception in Jordan that mental illness only affects the weak or those who have been traumatised.

Dr. Sarhan said people

avoid confronting what they think is personal weakness, therefore an initially simple psychiatric case that is neglected can, over a long period, deteriorate into a much more complex situation — a very common scenario in the country, he added.

In addition, Mohammad Farkh, a practising psychiatrist in the private sector, said psychiatry is not approved by physicians themselves, who think they can handle all illnesses regardless of their nature.

He said most physicians in Jordan not only think little of the discipline of psychiatry, but also think that all psychiatric problems are of the same nature.

Dr. Farkh said it is quite common for a patient suffering from chest pains to go to a physician who after examining the patient, fails to discover any physical reasons for the patient's symptoms, but prescribes sedatives to him/her.

In such a case, it is obvious that in the absence of physical problems, the patient could be suffering from a psychiatric problem and would therefore need to be referred to a specialist in that field instead of being prescribed sedatives that only subdue the symptoms rather than cure them, Dr. Farkh said.

Such a procedure, according to the doctor, traps the patient in a vicious circle where his/her symptoms intensify as does their cause; whereby had the patient been referred to a psychiatrist from the start, the problem would have been contained in a

shorter period, saving both patient and doctor time and effort.

Moreover, psychiatric illness in the culture is always associated with insanity, a condition which most people view as untreatable, said Dr. Sarhan.

Fear of being sent away to "mad houses" is often portrayed by television films and other media, and they have had a negative impact on people's perception of psychiatry, he added.

In agreement, Ahmad Khalaf, president of the Jordanian Psychiatrists' Association (JPA) stressed the need to educate Jordanians on the value of psychiatry through media channels.

"We want to address people in a humanistic tone and make them understand that it is only human to have psychiatric disturbances, and that they can be cured if realised," said Dr. Khalaf.

He also warned against the growing number of what he called "witch doctors" or shamans claiming to have divine powers to rid patients of all their ailments.

He said the widespread popularity of such "healers" is alarming as it gives way to the exploitation of many ignorant people who are actually led to believe in the "magical powers" of those "healers."

Such practices have become so prevalent that the "healers" have established offices frequented by many who are anxious to have the "devil within them" exorcised, explained Dr. Khalaf.

The doctor reiterated the JPC's commitment to embark on a campaign aimed at raising people's awareness of the legitimacy of the science of psychiatry and its orthodox treatment techniques as opposed to "witch doctoring."

All three professionals said psychiatrists combine two methods of treatment to cure a patient: psychotherapy and medication.

Psychotherapy helps the patient in speaking out and relieves him or her of tension; it also helps the psychiatrist in the diagnosis and assessment of a certain case.

Psychiatric medication on the other hand, is necessary to eliminate symptoms of distress, and on the long run, helps cure patients through their effect on the function of the brain and the nervous system, according to the psychiatrists.

Saying that psychiatric treatment in Jordan is the best in the area, Dr. Farkh added that psychiatrists here make use of psychologists' services and very often work along with them as a team.

He said that psychiatrists refer patients to psychologists who are specialists of psychometry, the science which involves performing 10 tests, personality profiles, and counselling.

But although psychologists can help patients through counselling they are not holders of medical diplomas as are psychiatrists, explained Dr. Farkh.

In addition, Dr. Sarhan said that the conservative culture and people's con-

cern for their legal status makes them more reluctant to seek the help of psychiatrists.

"Some people fear that their seeing a psychiatrist could reflect on their legal status negatively and be used against them in a court of law if marital or familial conflicts should arise," he said, adding that in a conservative country like Jordan, one's reputation is put on the line because psychiatric disturbances are viewed to be character shortcomings, something that is scandalous in the eyes of many, Dr. Sarhan said.

Dr. Khalaf said that on many occasions, husbands of patients have approached him demanding a report to "prove their wives' mental incompetence" either for divorce purposes or financial custody over assets.

In the same vein, Dr. Farkh said it was easier for him to "handle" a patient than it is to deal with his/her family, neighbours, and physicians, all of whom, he added, "are causing (him) a headache because of their unclear definition of psychiatry."

He said hospitals in the country make a psychiatrist's job more difficult than it already is. Many hospitals refuse to receive psychiatric patients because they cannot profit from them as they do from those patients who require surgery, said Dr. Farkh.

Patients admitted to hospital for surgery, he said, require more costly facilities such as operating rooms, x-rays, pain killers and injections.

WHAT'S GOING ON

THIRD YOUTH THEATRE FESTIVAL

★ Drama in Arabic entitled "The Night of the Murderers" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 5:30 p.m.

★ Drama in Arabic entitled "A Face for Everything" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

FILM

★ Dutch film entitled "Delices Turques" at

the French Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

LECTURE

★ Lecture on art entitled "The Psychology of Vision and Method" by Dr. George Sayegh at Darat Al Funn of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Lwibdeh at 6:00 p.m.



A child wounded by the RPF (Rwandan Patriotic Front) shelling on the Kigali market, waits for medical treatment at the Red Cross hospital. Rwandan rebels fired three shells into the government-held Kigali market killing 16 people and wounding about 20 others (AFP photo)

French called to stop fighting in Kigali

KIGALI (Agencies) — Rwandan rebels besieging Kigali launched a major offensive early Sunday against a paramilitary police camp in the north of the capital.

The Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) attacked the Cacyu gendarmerie base at around 4:00 a.m. (0200 GMT), before dawn. Violent artillery and small arms exchanges lasted for almost two hours.

Officers in the U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) watched the fighting from the Meridien Hotel close to the front line, but they were unable to say whether the rebels had seized the camp.

The latest fighting between the mainly Tutsi rebels and the forces of the Hutu majority government followed a day of sporadic shelling in Kigali, which is surrounded by the RPF.

Early Saturday, three shells fired by the rebels slammed into a market in the city, killing 16 people and wounding a score of others, witnesses and hospital sources said.

French troops deployed in the west of the embattled central African highland nation meanwhile prepared to set up a safe area for hundreds of thousands of endangered civilians, many of them fleeing rebel advances.

French foreign ministry spokeswoman Catherine Colonna said in Paris on Saturday that U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali had expressed support for the idea and had informed the head of the U.N. Security Council, Jamsheed Marker, whose response was expected "in the next few hours."

Ms. Colonna added that France did not need U.N. approval on the matter, as the creation of a safe area was permitted under current Security Council mandates for protecting civilians.

French military intervention in Rwanda, which began last month, is opposed by the RPF, which accused Paris of backing the government and extremist Hutu militias.

The rebels have warned of fighting in the event of direct confrontation with the French troops.

France has repeatedly said that its Operation Turquoise mission in Rwanda, where hundreds of thousands of people have been killed in an ethnic civil war, was strictly humanitarian and that it had no intention of getting involved in the conflict.

French U.N. Ambassador Jean-Bernard Merimee said in a letter to Mr. Ghali that France would have no choice but to withdraw rapidly from Rwandan territory if a security zone could not be organized there with international support.

The pullout warning came as the rebel RPF appeared to consolidate decisive advances across the country, sparking fresh waves of Hutu refugees.

In Goma, the bridgehead Zairean border town for the French troops, spokesman Colonel Jean-Claude Peruchon told journalists on Saturday: "We have had confirmation that Kigali is completely surrounded," by the rebels.

"To our knowledge there is no remaining access route into Kigali," he said, adding that government forces appeared to be "in difficulties" and that the reports had come from different and independent sources.

"Government forces seem to be preparing a counter-attack from hills in the north-west... but for the first time they are completely surrounded in Kigali," said Col. Peruchon, who was in western Rwanda but has daily radio contact with U.N. forces in Kigali.

But in Kigali, the commander of U.N. Forces, Maj. Gen. Romeo Dallaire, said early Sunday he couldn't confirm the city was surrounded by rebels. He said Col. Peruchon's information didn't come from his command.

"We can't go out to see now, it's dark. It's too risky," Maj. Dallaire, a Canadian, said in a telephone interview with the Associated Press. "There is fighting now. There is shooting in the city."

The rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front, led by the minority Tutsis, has taken about two-thirds of the country since the fighting began in early April, and has mounted a ferocious assault on Kigali.

"We want France to interpose itself between the belligerent sides," Rwandan Foreign Minister Jerome Bicomumpaka told the AP in Gisenyi, where the provisional government fled after being driven from Kigali.

Up to 500,000 people, mainly Tutsi victims of Hutu militiamen and death squads, have been massacred in Rwanda since the April 6 death of president Juvénal Habyarimana in a suspected rocket attack on his plane.

On Friday, the U.N. Security Council voted to create a commission to investigate alleged acts of genocide in Rwanda, a move that could lead to the creation of an international tribunal.

UNAMIR military spokesman Major Jean-Guy Plante said Saturday that the mission was halting food aid in Kigali because it was running low on supplies, the airport remains closed and stocks must be transported by truck from neighbouring Uganda.

"We only have a small reserve which we are keeping for emergencies," Maj. Plante said. "We are waiting for a green light from the RPF to open the airport."

The RPF, which jointly controls the airport with U.N. troops, opened fire on two planes flying over Kigali last week and banned the use of the runway because of fears that French troops will be airlifted into the capital.

Maj. Plante said UNAMIR was also negotiating with government forces to restart the evacuation of the homeless, prisoners of war and potential hostages trapped behind enemy lines.

"We have the green light from the RPF (for this) but we are having coordination problems with the government forces," he said.

The promoters apparently are seeking to make as much as possible before the economic sanctions against Haiti make money even scarcer.

The sanctions were imposed to try to force the military-backed government to relinquish power and restore to office democratically elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who was overthrown in a military-led coup in 1991.

Since the coup, more than 51,000 Haitians were intercepted at sea by the Coast Guard. The number of those who made it to other shores or died on the way is not known.

"Clinton was looking for a problem. He found his problem now," said Jean Claude Fignole, who owns the ferryboat Freda I. He spoke with the AP aboard the ferryboat, which was crowded with hundreds of people and tonnes of cargo, minutes before the vessel left Port-Au-Prince on its scheduled run to the southern Port Jérémie.

The refugee exodus threatens to overwhelm the processing facilities off Jamaica, at Guantanamo and on the British Caribbean island of Grand Turk. The facilities are projected to accommodate 15,500 people by mid-July. In Washington, a White House official said Saturday that the Clinton administration is close to signing an agreement to open another centre in another country, which she did not specify.

If hearings for the boat people take place offshore, the Clinton administration does not have to provide legal counsel for them. Washington hoped to decide within 24 hours which refugees gained political asylum or not, but the influx has slowed that effort.

"The road is vulnerable. It would not take much to cut the route and halt traffic in and out of Sarajevo."

Bosnian government sources said two mechanised battalions, each with as many as 20 tanks and 160 to 200 infantrymen, were among the Serb reinforcements advancing towards the road across Mount Igman west of the Bosnian capital.

U.N. military officials in the city could not immediately verify the government claims. Combatants' reports of troop movements are sometimes exaggerated.

"The area you are talking about is controlled by the BSA and we don't have military observers on their side," said Commander Eric Chapron, a U.N. spokesman.

"We have no information about Serb movements there, but if they are moving by night we probably wouldn't know about it."

Amman and Croat-backed government army forces ignored a country-wide truce for most of June, attacking Serb positions in central Bosnia and gaining ground.

Serb forces were uncharacteristically restrained in their response until Friday, when they inflicted heavy casualties on government troops and began rolling them back in a counter-offensive east of Zavidovici, U.N. officers said.

Veteran observers of the 27-month Bosnian civil war had been expecting a massive Serb riposte to June's reverses.

A successful attack on the unpaved road across Igman, which has come under increased small arms, heavy machine-gun and artillery fire in recent days, would serve as a brutal reminder to Sarajevo that the war is not over.

Most people in the capital still rely heavily on humanitarian aid and hundreds of lorries laden with food and basic consumer goods use the road every week.

The goods have helped to lend an air of normality to a city that was pounded by Serb siege guns until late February when a U.N. Security Council resolution, backed by the threat of NATO air strikes, forced heavy weapons to pull back out of range.

Serb troops attacked on Igman in August 1993 and came close to capturing the supply route before they were forced to withdraw, again under threat of NATO air strikes.

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'Boat people' wave may rise further

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Tired U.S. coast guardsmen laboured Saturday in their biggest rescue mission since World War II, intercepting boats jammed with Haitians and bracing for a new surge of refugees.

Diplomats say they believe bigger boats are being readied for thousands more Haitians to try to escape their impoverished and repressive homeland.

More than 6,700 people have fled in the past two weeks, including 1,365 who were picked up Friday. That was the highest single-day total since Washington changed its policy on boat people on June 16.

Under the policy, intercepted refugees will be given a hearing to see if they qualify for political refugee status in the United States. Previously, all boat people had been considered economic refugees and had been returned to Haiti.

Although only about one of every three people intercepted have been granted asylum so far, the chance has been enough to inspire Haitians to take to the sea under wretched conditions.

On Friday, the Coast Guard cutter Hamilton stopped a 15-metre sailboat on which 468 people had managed to jam. "I don't think you can get any more people on a boat that size. That's extremely unsafe," Coast Guard spokesman Dan Waldschmidt told the Associated Press.

Another 488 people aboard 13 boats were intercepted by late afternoon Saturday. "We've got plenty more out there," Mr. Waldschmidt said.

The refugees are taken either to a ship off Jamaica or to a recently reopened facility at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, just across the 130-km windward passage from northwest Haiti.

Until the reopening of Guantanamo, most boat people had set sail from the southwest peninsula that reaches toward Jamaica. But the availability of Guantanamo makes departing from the north more feasible, and thus is likely to increase the flow, said a diplomatic source.

The diplomat, who is familiar with the number of boats being built on the island, said he foresees a surge in the next few weeks. Boat organisers, particularly in the north, are aggressively promoting voyages, he said on condition of anonymity. Northern Haiti has bigger boats, built primarily for pre-embargo cargo traffic between the coast and Miami or the Bahamas.

The promoters apparently are seeking to make as much as possible before the economic sanctions against Haiti make money even scarcer.

The sanctions were imposed to try to force the military-backed government to relinquish power and restore to office democratically elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who was overthrown in a military-led coup in 1991.

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Bosnian army says Serbs threaten Sarajevo road

SARAJEVO (R) — Serb troops backed by tanks are moving into position to cut a key supply route linking Sarajevo to the Adriatic coast, an officer with Bosnian government forces said on Saturday.

"We believe two BSA (Bosnian Serb Army) brigades have moved into position behind (Mount) Igman in recent days and we are expecting an attack in that area," the officer, who asked not to be named, told Reuters.

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A third of Russians affected by contaminated water

MOSCOW (AP) — A third of all Russians suffer ill effects from contaminated drinking water each year and half the population drinks substandard water, government experts say in a newly published study.

The Environment Ministry reached its conclusions after conducting the first nationwide survey of Russia's drinking water, the Moscow Times reported Saturday, a day after the ministry released its study. The experts found that one in three Russians suffer annually from intestinal disorders caused by infected or polluted drinking water, due to widespread water pollution, outdated purification facilities and dirty pipes, the report said.

The drinking water is substandard for half of Russia's 148 million residents and is particularly bad in the regions of Moscow, Kurgan and Kalmykia. "This does not mean that half the population is drinking poisonous water," said Yevgeny Dmitriyev, director of the State Institute of Applied Ecology that co-authored the preliminary report. While 4.3 per cent of all water samples contained dangerous levels of bacteria, more than 20 times the acceptable level, most samples failed the test because they contained high levels of minerals and iron, which were relatively harmless substances, Mr. Dmitriyev was quoted by the Times as saying. Only 3.5 per cent of all samples failed to pass the test because of high percentages of chemicals, the Times said.

After decades of carelessness in industry and agriculture, about 70 per cent of all rivers and lakes in Russia are unfit to be sources of drinking water. Over 80 per cent of the water distribution system also is not up to hygienic standards and 40 per cent of the equipment is worn out, the report said.

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Save water... every drop counts!

NEWS IN BRIEF

Delay to start of Guinea-Bissau elections

BISSAU (AFP) — The start of polling was delayed Sunday in Guinea-Bissau, which is choosing a president and parliament in the first-ever multi-party elections since independence 20 years ago. Voting was meant to start at 7:00 a.m. (0700 GMT) but polling stations were still not open and election officials not in their places one hour later, by which time many votes had been waiting more than three hours. Voting was due to end by 1700 GMT and results were to be known Tuesday. The National Electoral Commission had been concerned about the logistical problems of distributing voting papers, booths and ballot boxes in the mud of the early rainy season. The 400,000 or so voters in the West African former Portuguese colony are to choose a president from eight candidates including incumbent Joao Bernardo Vieira, in power since a coup in November 1980. In the parliamentary poll 1,136 candidates representing eight parties are fighting for 100 seats in the national assembly.

China backs Estonia on Russian troop pullout

MOSCOW (AFP) — Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen stressed China's support for the unconditional withdrawal of Russian troops from Estonia by Aug. 31, during a visit to the Baltic state, the Baltic News Service (NBS) said Sunday. No country should maintain troops in another country without that state's consent, Mr. Qian said during talks with Estonian President Lennart Meri in Tallinn on Saturday. Moscow has some 2,500 troops in Estonia, the only one of the three Baltic states with which Russia has failed to reach agreement on a troop withdrawal. Tallinn has repeatedly called on the Russians to leave by Aug. 31, as some 12,000 Russian soldiers stationed in Latvia are due to do. Russia withdrew from Lithuania on Aug. 31 last year. Mr. Qian is on an official Estonian visit as part of a regional tour which has taken him to Russia, Belarus and Lithuania. He is to go on to Finland before returning to Beijing.

Sri Lanka to lift emergency rule ahead of polls

COLOMBO (AFP) — The Sri Lankan government plans to lift a state of emergency ahead of the parliamentary election in August, a local press report here said Sunday. The tough emergency regulations are due to expire on July 15 and the government will not seek an extension in view of the general elections on Aug. 16, the Sunday Leader newspaper said. Government officials were not immediately available for comment, but it has been customary for emergency rule to be relaxed during the run-up to elections. The laws were first imposed to combat separatist Tamil guerrillas. The state of emergency, which gives security forces sweeping powers to arrest and detain suspects for periods of up to two months without filing charges, has been in force since May 1983 with short breaks in between.

Arsonists attack Turkish mosque in Germany

HAMBURG, Germany (R) — Unknown attackers threw firebombs at a Turkish cultural centre in the northern German city of Hamburg during the night, police said on Sunday. Four people were injured including one admitted to hospital. The attack came amid a weekend wave of violence directed against police and some Turkish institutions following the death of a 36-year-old Turkish Kurd last week, shot by a policeman in Hanover, also in the north. Police say initial findings indicate the shot went off accidentally. They said it was not yet clear if the violence was directly linked to the death. The youth, named by police as Ayhan Eser, had been detained as he put up posters for banned Kurdish separatists. Militant Kurds in Germany have several times launched attacks against Turkish property to press their claim for an end to human rights abuse and for independence for their homeland in southeast Turkey. They have also protested against what they see as Germany's support for Turkish repression. On Saturday some 500 Kurds in Hanover and 200 in Hamburg held largely peaceful marches against Eser's killing.

Store chain owned by premier hit by arson attacks

ROME (AP) — Political opponents are responsible for a spate of arson attacks against a department store chain owned by Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi, a top government official claimed Saturday. Fires broke out in six Standa stores Friday, and a seventh on Saturday. Most were caused by small incendiary devices attached to timers. No one was reported injured. News reports estimated the damage at several million dollars. No one claimed responsibility, and authorities offered no leads. But Justice Minister Alfredo Biondi described the attacks as "consequences of the victory of the government." Mr. Berlusconi's conservative coalition won in elections held last March, defeating a leftist alliance. "A concerted and diffuse action to discredit the government has been in effect for a time," Mr. Biondi said in a statement, adding that it was followed by "threats, warnings and now bombs." He did not elaborate. Mr. Berlusconi owns Fininvest, a media, insurance and real estate conglomerate that also includes the Standa supermarket and department store chain. The chain has 260 outlets and employs 12,000 people. Stores in Brescia, Florence, Trento and Modena were hit around 2 a.m. Friday. A fire broke out in Standa in a Rome later in the morning, and at a Milan outlet in the evening. Interior Ministry officials described a fire Saturday in a Standa on the island of Sicily as the work of a copycat arsonist.

Blast in Baku kills seven

MOSCOW (AFP) — An explosion in an underground train killed seven people and injured more than 10 in Azerbaijan's capital Baku early Sunday, the Azerbaijan interior minister said. It was not immediately known what caused the blast, the second of its kind in less than four months. Passengers were evacuated after the explosion which occurred between stations at around 8:30 a.m. (0330 GMT) and caused a fire, the Turan news agency quoted the ministry as saying. About 30 people were hospitalized, according to the Russian news agency ITAR-TASS. Azerbaijan's President Geydar Aliyev called a meeting of security officials and ordered a thorough investigation, Turan said. On March 19, 12 people were killed and 46 injured in a blast in the Baku underground, described by local authorities as a terrorist attack. Azerbaijan has been locked in a conflict with Armenian separatists in the Azerbaijan territory of Nagorno-Karabakh for more than six years. The war has killed more than 20,000 people. Meanwhile, opposition to Aliyev has been growing. In early March, police arrested several dozen supporters of the nationalist Azerbaijan Popular Front, the opposition movement headed by ex-president Abulfaz Elchibey, who was toppled in June, 1993. The front is one of several groups in an opposition alliance.

Swedish youths believe in the supernatural

STOCKHOLM (AFP) — Swedish youths have lost faith in God but believe in the power of the supernatural, according to early results of a study published in the leading daily Dagens Nyheter here Sunday. One-fifth of the 500 high-school students questioned across Sweden believe in telepathy, according to the study conducted by Uppsala University philosophy researcher Ulf Sjoedin. Thirty-two per cent of the students believe in ghosts and extra-terrestrials, and almost 40 per cent of them believe in mind-reading. Eighty per cent of the students believe in premonitions through dreams. Mr. Sjoedin is convinced that students are not joking when they say they believe in extra-terrestrials.

Burma's only civilian president dies

RANGOON, Burma (AP) —

Maung Maung, a western-educated intellectual who ruled for one month as modern Burma's only civilian president, died of a heart attack in Rangoon on Saturday, official sources said. He was 69. Maung Maung was the country's attorney-general when he was chosen president of the Southeast Asian nation on Aug. 18, 1988, and also leader of the ruling party. His predecessor was ousted by student-led pro-democracy demonstrations after only 17 days in office.

Maung Maung was closely associated with the military government, but the rulers apparently thought his civilian status and his only indirect involvement in the suppression of dissent would help him the protests. Foreign analysts said he functioned more as a figurehead and held little actual power. In any case, protests increased during Maung Maung's rule.

On Sept. 18, Defence Minister Gen. Saw Maung took over, abolished most organs of state and imposed a curfew on the capital. The military bloodily crushed the demonstrations.

Lt. Gen. Than Shwe took over as head of the Junta in April 1992, and has slightly eased authoritarian rule. Maung Maung was the only civilian of four presidents who ruled under the one-party socialist system which began in 1962 and was abandoned after the 1988 demonstrations.

After stepping down, Maung Maung lived quietly in private life in a house near that of the first socialist president, Ne Win, which is across Inya Lake from the house of Aung San Suu Kyi, the pro-democracy leader who has been under house arrest since 1989.

Maung Maung, a lawyer and journalist, was born in 1925 in the former royal capital of Mandalay. His strongly nationalist sentiments flourished in high school. He fought as a guerrilla in the struggle for independence from the country's British colonial rulers.

After Burma gained independence in 1948, Maung Maung studied at Rangoon University. Describing himself as "an eternal student," he went on to receive a doctorate in international law at Utrecht University in the Netherlands and a law degree from Yale University in the United States. During the early 1960s, he spent two years as a lecturer at Yale, teaching political science and Southeast Asian studies.

After the 1962 military coup that began Ne Win's iron-fisted rule, Maung Maung served as chief justice of the chief court and in 1972 was named minister of justice.

FBI chief to help combat Russian mafia

MOSCOW (R) — The head

of the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) arrived in Moscow for talks on how to combat organized crime in Russia and stop it spreading abroad.

FBI Director Louis Freeh, on a tour of Central and Eastern Europe, flew in late on Saturday for discussions with Russian leaders including Interior Minister Viktor Yerin and counter-intelligence chief Sergei Stepashin.

"The primary purpose of our meetings here in the next few days is to make sure we are better organized than the organized crime people we are fighting," he told reporters on arrival.

Mr. Freeh, the first FBI chief to visit Russia, said earlier his fact-finding mission would focus on ways to combat the spread of organized crime and drug trafficking in Russia and Europe.

He said there was growing evidence that Russian criminal groups were combining with others to break the law in the United States. "Transnational criminal organizations are threatening all of our economies as well as our democracies," he said.

A key issue during his visit, which lasts to July 5, will be how to prevent the possible theft of the former Soviet Union's nuclear weapons for sale to guerrilla groups.

Mr. Freeh has said Russia's mafia gangs could soon have the power to obtain nuclear arms and sell them.

But Mr. Stepashin, quoted by the ITAR-TASS news agency, said last week he did not believe in such a threat and he would press Mr. Freeh to substantiate his allegations.

In a sign of post-cold war cooperation between Russia and the United States, the FBI is to open a Moscow office.

President Boris Yeltsin has ordered a crackdown on the powerful mafia-style gangs whose bomb attacks, kidnappings and shootings are turning the Russian capital into a city reminiscent of 1920s Chicago.

Deputy Interior Minister Mikhail Yegorov, who met Mr. Freeh at the airport, said last month the mafia had declared war on the state.

His ministry registered five crime-related bombings a day while the number of kidnappings in Moscow alone had soared to 118 in the first six months of this year from 16 in 1993.

Yet Mr. Yeltsin's decree, which gives police greater powers to hold suspects before charges are laid and to investigate bank accounts, was highly controversial. Parliament's Lower House said it violated the constitution and human rights.



Rescue personnel cover bodies with plastic at the wreckage at a U.S. Air jetliner that crashed in Charlotte, North Carolina, killing 18 of the 56 people aboard. The

jet crashed while attempting to land at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport in a thunderstorm (AFP photo)

Airliner crashes, at least 18 dead

CHARLOTTE, NC (R) — A USAir DC-9 with 55 people on board crashed Saturday evening in a thunderstorm, broke apart and burned after missing an approach to Charlotte's International Airport, killing at least 18 passengers, the airline said.

The plane, which had flown in from Columbia, South Carolina, knocked over telephone poles and split into three pieces, with the tail section crashing into a house, said Jerry Orr, aviation director at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport.

USAir said 18 people died aboard flight 1016. The search for bodies ended about midnight (0400 GMT) and a crane was to be brought in at dawn Sunday to lift the main section of the fuselage in search of bodies.

Mr. Orr said. Thirty-three people were taken to area hospitals, he said.

A witness at the scene said the plane had appeared over a group of picnicers and exploded near the runway.

Timmy Payne, 18, who was about 200 metres from the crash, told Reuters he had seen one survivor emerge in flames.

"I saw a man come out of the woods and he was on fire," said Mr. Payne, whose mother, Mary Payne, said she had seen "one man who was cut in half. People were lying around. There was really gruesome stuff."

Reverend Phillip Robinson, who lives near the airport, told Reuters he had seen the plane approaching

the airport. "It looked like it was going to land, but it was to the right of the runway. It flew right over my head and crashed in the woods," he said.

Rev. Robinson said that he headed for the wreckage and chanced upon a burning passenger.

"A man on fire was lying on the ground shouting 'help me help me.' We shouted to him to roll until the fire was out."

Mr. Orr told reporters the pilot and co-pilot of the plane had survived but that passengers who were trapped in the rear of the plane may have burned to death.

Kathleen Bergen of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) told reporters that "the plane came in for a landing the crew determined that it could not land and the

aircraft initiated a go-around to make another attempt." A USAir spokesman in Washington, DC said survivors were being treated at four Charlotte hospitals.

National transportation bad safety board officials were heading for the site of the crash and transportation Secretary Federico Pena was scheduled to leave Washington for the crash site Sunday.

FAA personnel were listening to recordings of conversations between the flight crew and the airport tower, but transcripts were not expected to be available for weeks.

It was the second major air disaster in Charlotte involving a DC-9. In 1974, an Eastern Airlines DC-9 crashed into woods while attempting to land in Charlotte, killing 71 of 82 persons on board.

Mitterrand begins state visit to South Africa

CAPE TOWN (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand begins the first post-apartheid state visit to South Africa with an address to the new all-race parliament and visit to Cape Town's poorest township.

Mr. Mitterrand, seeking to gild his final year in office, will be President Nelson Mandela's first official visitor since his inauguration on May 10.

His programme includes an address to the National Assembly and senate in the morning and a visit to Khayelitsha, a giant shanty settlement where he will throw the switch on an electrification project partly financed by France.

Government Minister Kader Asmal said Mr. Mitterrand, 77, would be the first outsider to speak in the 84-year-old Parliament.

British Prime Minister Harold MacMillan previewed

the collapse of colonialism there on Feb. 2, 1960, when he warned a "wind of change is blowing through the continent."

But Mr. Asmal said Mr. MacMillan addressed white legislators in a dining room during a recess and not at a joint sitting of the assembly and senate, as Mr. Mitterrand would do.

"Francois Mitterrand is a person who straddles the whole post-war period of development in the western world and he is someone who gave special support to our president after his release from prison in 1990."

"It is entirely appropriate that he should be the first head of state to be received by our president in a democratic South Africa," Mr. Asmal said.

French officials say former President F.W. de Klerk, the architect of apartheid reform, and Mr. Mandela, whose

African National Congress shaped the new democracy, first shared a meal at Mr. Mitterrand's table in Paris in February 1992.

One presidential aide said Mr. Mitterrand was anxious during his last months in office to write his own political epitaph.

"Posterity is important to him. He wants to influence people's memory of the Mitterrand era," the aide told Reuters. Being Mandela's first official guest would suit that agenda.

Mr. de Klerk, who freed Mr. Mandela from his 27-year political imprisonment in February 1990 and serves as a deputy in a Government of National Unity, will miss Mr. Mitterrand's visit. He is on holiday in Paris.

French embassy spokesman Emmanuel Gagnier said Mr. Mitterrand would travel with ministers responsible for foreign affairs,

the economy and cooperation as well as businessmen.

"I am sure that part of his speech to parliament will be dedicated to some sort of economic message," he told Reuters.

Foreign governments including the United States, Britain and Japan have promised large post-apartheid aid packages to help South Africa shed the legacy of 45 years of white rule.

That legacy was highlighted in Cape Town by an eight-day winter storm that flooded or destroyed more than 7,000 homes and led Mandela last week to declare the city a disaster area.

Marc Burger, South Africa's ambassador to France, said in Paris: "President Mitterrand's visit should...act as an accelerator by sending a political message of encouragement to French entrepreneurs."

New faces, old hands share the stage at G7 summit

NAPLES, Italy (R) — Italy's Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi hits the international big time when he hosts world leaders at the annual group of seven summit.

Mr. Berlusconi, Japan's Tomiichi Murayama and Canada's Jean Chretien will all be taking their place at the top table of the world's richest nations for the first time in Naples.

For Francois Mitterrand, though, his 14th appearance at a summit on July 8 to 10 as doyen of the group will be his last before he retires as French president next May.

Here are brief portraits of the G7 leaders and of Russia's Boris Yeltsin and European Commission President Jacques Delors, who will also be in Naples.

U.S. President Bill Clinton attends his second economic summit still trying to establish his stature on the world stage.

The democratic president, 47, who combines a love of facts and statistics with the skills of a talk show host, hopes to use the G7 gathering to boost his image at home and abroad.

Mr. Clinton, who last week reshuffled his top advisers in a bid to improve his effectiveness, finds Americans still evenly divided in most opinion polls on his foreign policy skills.

Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama will rival Mr. Berlusconi as the great-unknown at the summit, where he will make his international debut just a week after parliament elected him as the nation's first socialist premier since 1948.

As head of the deeply divided Socialist Party, the tall and stooping 70-year-old functioned for months as a kind of unofficial opposition leader within the broad coalition which took over the reins from the Liberal Democratic Party last July.

He built up a reputation as a competent behind-the-scenes mediator, but seldom took open stands on such divisive policy issues as Japan's defence treaty with the United States, which socialist firebrands made it their life's work to hate.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl is the second most experienced summiteer after Mr. Mitterrand. The burly Christian Democrat, 64, has been in power for nearly 12 years and recent polls indicate that he may well gain another term after October 16 elections.

Mr. Kohl guided Germany triumphantly through unification in 1990, but has since faced criticism that he misjudged the costs of union and misled the Germans

about the taxes that had to be raised to pay for it. A recovery is emerging in time for the election, even if unemployment is continuing to rise.

Mr. Kohl has spearheaded Europe's overtures to the former Soviet Union and other East European countries, but has just as firmly pinned his colours to the mast of Western European integration.

French President Francois Mitterrand will be making his 14th and last G7 appearance and is the doyen of the group with two summits more than Mr. Kohl.

Mr. Mitterrand, 77, has always been reticent about the G7, resisting American efforts to turn it into a more permanent and powerful institution — a sort of U.S.-led world directorate.

At early G7 summits, he clashed with Ronald Reagan over U.S. efforts to enforce a technology boycott on Moscow.

The French socialist leader pleads each year for the same causes — debt relief and IMF special drawing rights for the third world job-creating technology and public works programmes aid to the former Soviet Union.

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, 57, makes his G7 debut after

Marching from business to political power in March with Forza Italia, the free market party he named after a soccer chant.

The billionaire media tycoon with a deep suntan and an ironed-on smile is the only man at the summit with no political track record. He is certain to want to put on a glossy show in the best tradition of Italian "bella figura". Wives were originally not invited but will now be in Naples, with his glamorous wife Veronica, a former actress, as hostess.

The presence of neo-fascists in Mr. Berlusconi's "Freedom Alliance" coalition has stirred concern and criticism in Europe but is not likely to make waves at the seaside summit.

British Prime Minister John Major flies to his fourth G7 summit basking in the approval of most members of his conservative party for vetoing Belgian Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene as president of the European Commission.

Mr. Major's tough stance has earned him a respite from criticism for his lacklustre leadership and a series of policy blunders, which helped plunge the Conservatives to their worst-ever electoral defeat in last month's European parliament elections.

Mr. Major may be lampooned as incompetent — the Guardian newspaper cartoonist draws him wearing his underpants outside his trousers — but he has held his party together through its civil war over Europe and kept his job by showing fighting qualities that belie his grey, mild-mannered image.

Canada's Prime Minister Jean Chretien led his Liberal Party to a crushing victory over the then ruling Conservatives last October promising to stimulate jobs and growth.

Jobs will be foremost on Mr. Chretien's mind at his first G7 summit as he strives to come through with his electoral promises to cut unemployment, now at 10.7 per cent.

A 60-year-old lawyer from Quebec, Mr. Chretien is a passionate opponent of Quebec separatism and served in many cabinet posts under former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

He is one of 19 children in a Roman Catholic family. His crooked mouth is the result of a birth defect that left him deaf in one ear and partially paralysed his face.

Russia's President Boris Yeltsin, 63, will be attending his third G7 summit — it has become customary to invite Russia for the second part of the talks. Elected in

June 1991 for five years, he has refused to quash suggestions from allies that he extend his term to seven in a pact with parliament.

Mr. Yeltsin played a key role in the break-up of the old Soviet Union. His differences with the Soviet-era parliament grew throughout 1993, culminating in his decision to unilaterally force through a new constitution and, backed by tanks, dissolve parliament. The new parliament elected in December has proved less hostile, if equally ineffective. The past few months have been marked by greater political stability.

European Commission President Jacques Delors, 68, is making his last G7 trip as the European Union's top executive but could be back next year in place of Mr. Mitterrand if he stands and wins the race for the presidency for the French Socialists.

Nicknamed the "Philosopher king" for his reputation as a thinker of grand European schemes, he has turned his job into one of world stature during his 10 years at the helm.

Talk among European leaders in Naples will turn to his successor as the search continues for a consensus candidate to replace him following Britain's veto of Belgium's Dehaene at the EU's Corfu summit.

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Peace for those who really matter

THE ANNOUNCEMENT by the Jerash Festival organising committee early this year that it was inviting poet Ali Ahmad Said, alias Adonis, to read his poems at the 1994 festival, was received by an outcry of anti-peace activists who accuse Adonis of seeking to normalise cultural relations with Israel. A campaign to force the festival committee to withdraw the invitation picked up, only to fizzle out when it did not gain any wide-ranging support. The campaign was led by the Amman-based Arab Writers Union, which had last year declared that the Arab writers viewed themselves as the last defence against normal relations with Israel; the union would be "the last trench from which to fight the enemy." It targeted Adonis for attending a meeting that was also attended by Israeli writers. While most writers in Jordan chose to ignore the issue, a few rallied behind the union and a few extended half-hearted support for Adonis and the concept of Arab writers interacting with their Israeli counterparts. The Jerash Festival organising committee meanwhile kept silent on the Adonis invitation and only on Saturday brushed all accusations aside saying that there was "no avail in confronting the reality of the path of history by calls for isolation."

This episode demonstrates how far we have gone through the peace process. The average citizen is saying if the Arab governments are holding talks with Israel, why should't people on both sides talk to each other? He is also saying that if the peace process is irreversible, then the best thing is to speed it up. Businessmen, for example, are clamouring to do business, not only with the newly-emerging Palestinian entity, but with Israel itself. Hoteliers who are building a dozen hotels in the south are in fact hoping to attract not only Western and Japanese tourists but also Israelis. Many Jordanians express the hope to visit not only the West Bank and Gaza but also Israel. In fact most of those who do visit the West Bank also tour the rest of Palestine.

People in Jordan, Palestine and elsewhere in the region increasingly see the benefits of peace. Though not tangible at the moment, the prospects of peace offer a great deal of hope. The peoples of the region are fed up with decades of wars that brought miseries to millions of people. They realise that if the billions spent on the military every year were diverted to health and education, then the region will turn into an oasis of prosperity and tranquillity.

It is weird though that some writers, especially members of the Arab Writers Union, would not share the peoples' visions and hopes. Even among the Israelis more and more people are expressing faith in peace and the peace process as evidenced by a recent poll. We are sure that if Jordanians and Arabs are fully briefed on the merits of peace and then polled a majority will express their support for all aspects of the process. Meanwhile Arab writers could devote their efforts to addressing the many diseases that afflict the nation, not least among them the staggering high rate of illiteracy. And since the peace we seek is a just, comprehensive and lasting one, the writers should explore ways of achieving that. Certainly a just, comprehensive and lasting peace cannot be accomplished without fully engaging the other side, the Israelis. And the engagement should not only be limited to officials on both sides but to peoples as well, because after all it is the people who have to live with peace and guard it.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday called on the Arab countries to back the Palestinian leadership in its current drive to establish a Palestinian state and regain usurped Arab rights. Sultan Al Hantab said that by backing the Palestinians in their quest, Jordan has set an example for the Arab countries to copy and is now betting on peace and getting ready for the battle of peace. The writer said that the Jordanians and the Palestinians have common ground for launching unity in the form of a confederation, which would give them more strength and a better and more prosperous future. The Palestinians have established self-rule, which would eventually lead to an independent state while the Jordanians are on their way to negotiate with Israel over their legitimate rights in land and water, thus creating the opportune climate for peace, said Mr. Hantab. The writer called on the Jordanians and the Palestinians to move towards closer cooperation at this stage and to pave the ground for a confederation, which is the desired of the silent majority on both sides of the River Jordan. He said that the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships ought to ignore the voices of some groups which doubt over prospects for bilateral cooperation and over the prospects of unity between the two peoples.

Human Rights File

By Waleed Sadi

What counts is the will

MUCH IS said about political and civil rights and not much is being devoted to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), which went into effect in 1976. Somehow political rights are more spectacular and people talk more about them than about the equally important economic, social and cultural rights. One explanation for the dichotomy between the two basic categories of human rights lies in the proposition that the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) are supposed to take effect immediately and not progressively. Article 2 of the ICCPR speaks of respecting and ensuring to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognised in the covenant by adopting legislative and other measures necessary to give effect to the rights recognised in the ICCPR. This has been interpreted by the Human Rights Committee (HRC), which monitors the application of the ICCPR, to mean immediate action should be taken to give effect to the articles of the human rights treaty on civil and political rights. Article 2 of the ICESCR reads differently than the corresponding Article 2 of the ICCPR and stipulates: "Each state party to the present covenant undertakes to take steps...to the maximum of its available resources, with a view to achieving progressively the full realisation of the rights recognised in the present covenant by all appropriate means..."

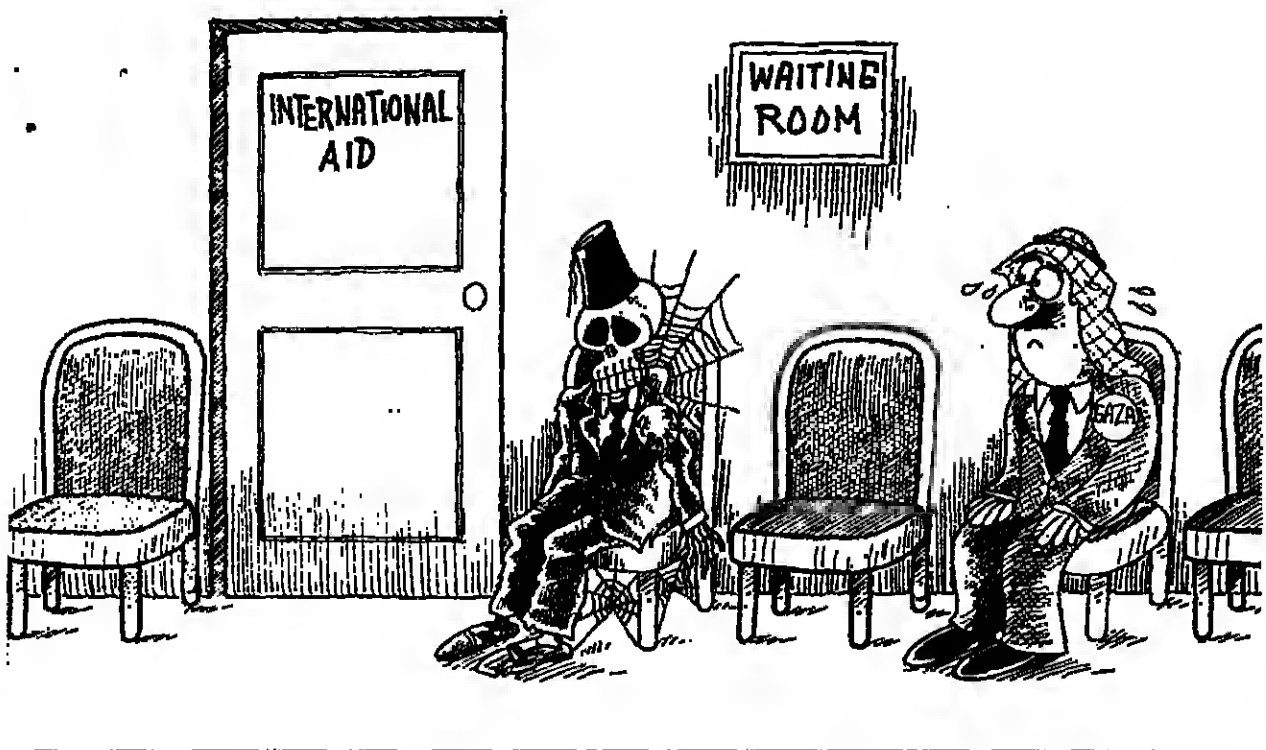
This language has been repeatedly taken to mean that state parties to the ICESCR are under obligated to attain the economic, social and cultural objectives of the ICESCR in a progressive way. This differs from the ICCPR, under which state parties are treaty obligated to put into effect the civil and political rights mentioned in the ICCPR immediately. This interpretation has been constantly upheld even though no state party has been found to have given immediate effect to all the provisions of the ICCPR. In practically all the occasions when state parties' periodic reports were considered, their respective delegations were always told that their fulfilment of their treaty obligation is not complete and that much more needs to be done. In so ruling, the HRC, which carries the mandate of enforcing the ICCPR, has in effect implied that no state party has been capable of meeting its civil and political treaty obligations in full.

Still there are more discussions on political human rights than on economic or social or cultural rights even though the latter category of human rights is also critical and forms the basis for the attainment of the other rights. There is a recognition of this interrelation between the two sets of human rights in the third preamble paragraph of the ICESCR, which reads: "Recognising that, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ideal of free human beings enjoying freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy his economic, social and cultural rights, as well as his civil and political rights."

Against this backdrop, it would be safer to conclude that there is a relationship between one set of human rights and the other. The two go together for the most part. Admittedly, though, there are some basic political and civil rights that must be attained without awaiting the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights. The simple example in this context is torture, which can never be condoned on the strength of the argument that the state in question is still underdeveloped. On the other side of the ledger, one can cite the example of the right to fair trial as dependent to a considerable extent on attaining a certain level of economic development. If a state is so poor as not to be able to provide free legal counsel to poor defendants accused of crimes or felonies, then one can rightly state that the economic condition of the country in question has prevented it from meeting one basic right outlined in the ICCPR. One can draw many other analogies to drive home the message that with regard to some civil and political rights, economic development is not so critical as to be viewed as sine qua non for their implementation whereas for others this is not the case.

In retrospect most human rights, whether economic or political, can be best attained on a progressive basis. There are of course exceptions such as the case offered by the phenomenon of torture or similar grave violations. In the final analysis, what counts most is the will and determination to move ahead on all fronts to protect and promote human rights in all their dimensions.

M. KAHIL



Joint rule could make Jerusalem a city of peace

By Gershon Baskin

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — The political leadership of Israel speaks of a consensus on the future status of Jerusalem, one which represents more than 95 per cent of the Israeli public. This consensus, defined as the Israeli policy, supposedly is as follows: All of Jerusalem is Israel's eternal, undivided capital. All of it must remain under Israeli sovereignty forever.

I maintain that this is not really the consensus of Israeli opinion on Jerusalem but is in fact a rather narrow view of what should be the future of this city. The true consensus, as opposed to this mythical consensus, can be stated as follows, namely that all Israelis believe that:

• Jerusalem must never return to the status it had prior to June 1967 — that is, it should never again be physically divided. It must remain an open city with free access throughout its boundaries for all.

• Personal security and security of property must be guaranteed for all people in all parts of the city. No one should have to fear getting a knife in his back in any part of the city, and no one should have to fear having his car torched or other property damaged.

• The new Jewish neighbourhoods built in East Jerusalem after 1967 must remain under Israeli sovereignty. There can be no compromise on this.

• Jewish holy places must remain under Israeli control. (This does not include the Haram).

Why do I think this is the true consensus? To begin with, if Israelis (and even

Jerusalemites) were asked to draw a map of today's municipal boundaries, very few would be capable of completing the task. This suggests to me that these boundaries are not "holy" in anyone's mind. Moreover, if Israelis were asked to name the 22 neighbourhoods of Arab East Jerusalem, almost none would be able to. If you asked Israelis how many of them have visited those Arab neighbourhoods, the answer would be almost none. If you asked how many would be interested in visiting them,

most people, I am certain, would be "no."

All of this seems to suggest that most Israelis don't really care about the Arab parts of East Jerusalem. Rather, most Israelis are concerned about the ability of Israel to maintain its capital in Jerusalem, to have security, to have an open Old City with Jewish holy places. The status of the Arab sections of Jerusalem is really of little interest to them.

I believe that one of the primary steps that must be taken on the Israeli side to

this situation. There are senior Labour members of the Knesset who hold these views as well. They should be encouraged to speak out.

Second, opinion polls should ask the public the sort of questions I posed above. The poll results should be widely published because they would, in the end, help pave the way for negotiations over Jerusalem.

Jerusalem will never be a unified city unless it can be shared. The possibility for sharing Jerusalem will be met only when the two sides and their leaders cut down on the rhetoric that polarises and instead begin to help the public on both sides understand the true character of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is a city of two peoples, both of which claim national, historical and religious rights to it. Real sharing can be achieved only by recognising the political reality that has existed here since 1967. Since the overwhelming majority of Israelis really care only about the Jewish parts, let's concentrate on them and recognise that the Palestinians today are willing to accept rule over only their parts of the city.

Jerusalem can stay physically united. Infrastructure, economic development and some elements of planning can be conducted jointly. Let Israel rule over Israeli Jerusalem and let Palestine rule over Palestinian Jerusalem, and Jerusalem will become one city living in peace.

The writer, international director of the Israel/Palestine Centre for Research and Information, contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

Japan has a role to play for peace in the Mideast

By Koji Kakizawa

TOKYO — In light of recent progress in the Middle East peace process, much interest has been shown in Japan's role in the process and in the region as a whole. I can assure all those interested in the success of this process that Japan has been actively engaged and keenly interested in, and remains deeply committed to peace in the Middle East.

I have been involved in the search for peace in the Middle East for more than 10 years. Japan has been actively supporting this process from the beginning. Less than two days after I was appointed minister for foreign affairs, I decided to pay my first official visit to the region. During the visit, I made clear to the regional parties the depth of Japan's support for the peace process, including assistance for the Palestinians of \$200 million over the two years beginning last October, and bilateral assistance to Arab countries that neighbour Israel, including Egypt, Jordan and Syria.

Japan's humanitarian assistance, which has been extended to the Children's Hospital in Egypt, refugee camps in Jordan, emergency medical centres in Syria and so forth, was welcomed by local people in all the nations I visited. When I visited Jericho Hospital to donate emergency medical equipment, I was welcomed warmly as the first foreign minister to visit the area since Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed their historic agreement on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area.

In the context of confidence-building, I urged the Arab parties to end their boycott of Israel. It is counterproductive in light of the economic agreement between Israel and the PLO. It contradicts the interests of the Arab parties themselves, and it inhibits foreign investment in the region, including that of Japan.

All the leaders I talked to expressed a firm commitment to peacemaking. The first concrete results of the ongoing peace talks are the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area and the establishment of the Palestinian interim self-government through the agreement signed in Cairo.

The United States had intensively promoted the Israel-Syria negotiation track, sending Secretary of State Warren Christopher to the region twice in recent months. He and I have discussed Middle East issues and promised to cooperate. My impression is that in response to this American initiative, Israel and Syria have changed their attitudes towards the negotiations in a positive way.

"There still exist negative factors that might delay the achievement of a comprehensive peace, even in the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, which have produced significant results. Besides those extremists opposed to the peace process, the Palestinians' interim self-government is facing a number of problems stemming from the fact that they have not had an administrative system before."

Neither party has much time to negotiate; both have to produce tangible results, or "peace dividends," in order to further promote the process in the face of opposition. The international community has been playing an increasingly important role in consolidating the efforts of the negotiating parties and of the co-sponsors, the United States and Russia.

At this juncture, the international community has been asked to help the Palestinians administer their autonomous government by fostering a favourable climate for the Israeli-Palestinian bilateral negotiations, and by promoting mutual confidence for regional cooperation.

I believe that the multilateral talks have effectively supported the bilateral talks.

They have provided negotiating parties with the opportunity for confidence-building, and have presented visions of a new Middle East underpinned by cooperation among regional parties.

This is why Japan believes that it should actively support the multilateral talks, to foster an atmosphere that will help keep the peace process moving forward, while building trust and confidence. It is in this arena that Japan has engaged itself most vigorously.

The fundamental objective of the multilateral negotiations is to help regional parties to establish peaceful and constructive relationships that will underpin a new Middle East after peace agreements are concluded.

Since 1992, Japan has participated in all five working groups in the multilateral negotiations: those on the environment, regional economic development, water resources, refugees, and arms control and regional security. Japan is particularly proud of its efforts in the environmental group, which it chairs.

Since the beginning of the multilateral negotiations, we have pointed out that those arrangements which lay a foundation for regional cooperation are no less important than are concrete infrastructure projects for a new Middle East.

"Japan, with its proven record of efforts on the multilateral stage, can help move the Middle East peace process along by developing the multilateral aspect of its two-track approach in line with the dramatic progress being achieved on the bilateral stage."

In the working group on the environment, Japan has proposed the drafting of a regional code of conduct so that governments, private companies and individuals and communities have a fuller understanding of the need for environmental conservation. We hope regional cooperation in this field can be promoted through the establishment of a regional code of conduct.

In the working group on regional economic development, Japan has proposed the establishment and promotion of an action plan for regional economic development that seeks to enhance interdependence among regional parties through the development of tourism-related industries.

We believe that tourism can be an effective means of propelling regional economies. It has the potential to create jobs and attract foreign currency to the whole region.

Japan, with its proven record of efforts on the multilateral stage, can help move the Middle East peace process along by developing the multilateral aspect of its two-track approach in line with the dramatic progress being achieved on the bilateral stage. This two-track approach is necessary for the long-term success of the process, and Japan looks forward to playing a more active role in the Middle East peace process through political, economic and cultural contributions. I, too, intend to take a more active approach to all aspects of the Middle East peace process.

Nearly 2,000 years of cultic history?

By Rami G. Khouri

Special to the Jordan Times

NEARLY a century after it was first documented in modern times, and some 1500 years after it was built, a Byzantine church in Jebel Luweibdeh has been excavated and is generating some intriguing clues about the continuity of cultic and religious traditions in the ancient world.

The church in question is on the grounds of Darat Al Funun, the new arts complex of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation on the southeastern edge of Jabal Luweibdeh, overlooking the city-centre of Amman. The excavations were undertaken in 1993-1994 under the sponsorship of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities and under the direction of Pierre Bikai of the American Centre of Oriental Research (ACOR). May Sha'er, Lana Shmondeh, Khlood Abdob and Brian Fitzgerald assisted in the excavations.

Between 1889 and 1948, the site was described and studied by several international scholars, who noted several important inscriptions. Among the most noteworthy, on a red granite pedestal, was a Greek inscription mentioning a "Heraklion" — a sanctuary of the Greek god Herakles (known as Hercules to the Romans), and a dedicatory inscription in Greek letters on a slab of white marble which mentioned two important names — a "priest of St. George" who built the church, and a certain Polienctas who was a bishop of Philadelphia (ancient Amman). Also recorded in this period were some standing columns, a bas-relief with a victory figure, a Roman altar, a cross inscribed in a circle and a rosette near the entrance of the church. B. Bagatti in 1948 suggested that the Byzantine church was built on the site of an earlier Roman cultic facility, and that it was in use at the end of the 6th and in the early 7th centuries A.D. In 1972, solely on the basis of the mention of St. George, the scholar A. Augustinovic suggested that this was one of many other shrines in Jordan dedicated to the Islamic figure El Khadr.

The recent excavations and scholarly analyses have generated new information about the site and may have clarified its successive use as a cultic site in the Roman, Byzantine and Islamic

periods.

The church structure itself comprises a main rectangular hall measuring 14.8 x 12.5 metres, divided into three parts by two rows of re-used Roman columns with their Corinthian capitals, and with a semi-circular apse at its eastern end; an entrance to the west looking onto a colonnaded narthex, or porch; a cave associated with the church to the north; and a rectangular room that may have been joined to the church along its south side.

The floor of the church and the cave was decorated with a combination of white and coloured mosaics and some coloured marble tiles. A small, roughly three-metre-square room south of the apse was probably a sacristy, where the church's holy vessels and other sacred objects were stored. A baptismal font is located at the western end of the north aisle.

The cave attached to the church from the north is one of at least four caves in the immediate vicinity of the church, and one of the four niches in the cave may have held a burial sarcophagus. The cave to the north and the room to the south align with a wide space between the internal columns to give the church a cross-shaped look, rather than the more common basilical design.

The multi-colour floor mosaics include flower shapes, a Greek cross, coloured borders, and, in the south room, a more complex and colourful pattern of acanthus scrolls against a dark green-blue background interrupted by white, cross-shaped flowers. The parallels of similar decorative patterns found in other well dated churches in the Amman-Madaba region suggest that the church was in use at the end 6th-early 7th century A.D., but its initial construction date remains unknown.

The pre-church history of the site remains an intriguing mystery. The site was certainly used before the building of the church, to judge by the remains of earlier walls, plastered floor surfaces, another, apparently sealed, cave, and the re-used Roman columns and capitals, the horned altar, and a carved stone in the western wall.

The cave itself may have been used as the tomb of a revered person or another kind of cultic facility — since it was deemed important enough to be incorporated into the structure of



Drawing of the Darat Al Funun church by Ali Maher, showing Darat Al Funun at top left and the entrance to the cave at left (Courtesy Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation)

the church.

Several inscriptions and artifacts unearthed in the excavations also add to our knowledge of the people who lived in this region in several ancient periods. A Greek inscription on pink limestone has only a few legible letters, which may refer to the Roman Emperor or Trajan (A.D. 98-117). Three other interesting inscriptions were found on basalt stones, two in Safaitic and one in Kufic (an early Arabic script). The Safaitic inscriptions, the work of pre-Islamic Arab tribes who lived in this region from the 1st century B.C. to at least the 3rd century A.D., included drawings of camels and a horseman with a lance; an animal with long horns, perhaps an ox; ladder-like symbolic marks that some scholars believe may represent the seven planets that controlled man's destiny; and words mentioning the names and genealogies of the individuals who most likely made the inscriptions (e.g. "the donkey belongs to MN the son of MSK", and "the she camel (was drawn) by BD'L, son of HSMN, son of SLM, son of MY, son of H'BT'L, son of HSM").

Only the word "Allahumme" ("God of all") is legible in the Kufic inscription, while the Arabic word "peace" was found inscribed on a fragment of a white marble altar. Among other excavated artifacts are an Arab imitation of a Byzantine coin dated to A.D. 647-697, two complete Abbasid period lamps and a nearly complete steatite lamp, and a bronze lamp filler. The excavated pottery dates mainly from the Islamic period, and includes fragments of painted bowls or cups and of large, hand-made pithos jars (storage jars).

The new evidence unearthed has revived the mystery about whether and where a Roman temple dedicated to Herakles may have once stood on Jabal Luweibdeh. More intriguing is the evidence for the passage of ancient religious traditions from one civilisation to another in this region. Many historians equate Herakles with St. George. Both were associated with strength and courage, and both of their names are mentioned in inscriptions found at the church site. As the French scholar F.-M. Abel said in 1908, "the metamorphosis

of Herakles as St. George is easy since the two characters have physical strength as an attribute."

Coins and other evidence confirm that the people of Roman Philadelphia worshipped Herakles, but we do not know where his temple was located. To make the tale even more intriguing, some scholars also suggest that the Roman-era cult of Herakles evolved from the earlier Iron Age (Ammonite) god Milkom, or Moloch. The British scholar Julian Bowsher has recently written that "Milkom/Moloch was worshipped throughout Ammonitis, and later identification with Herakles is perhaps reflected in the general popularity of the latter throughout the region in the Roman period."

Scholars widely believe that a sanctuary to Milkom once stood on the Citadel of Amman, perhaps on the site of the existing Roman temple on the Citadel, where the Ammonite god's name has been found on inscriptions associated with Ammonite statues.

There is no architectural or artifactual evidence to suggest that a large temple dedicated to Herakles was built on Jabal Luweibdeh.

Perhaps, Dr. Bikai suggests, the inscription found in the church related not to a large temple, but to a smaller cultic structure or some other public building that has since disappeared.

The theme of ancient cultural/cultic continuity becomes even more interesting when we consider the question of whether the site retained some sacred significance into the Islamic period. Dr. Bikai raises the interesting question of how to interpret the concentrations of Islamic period ceramics outside the main church building. One explanation, he suggests, is that the building fell out of use as a church in the Islamic era, but the site retained some cultic significance.

Scholars have tried to make associations between El Khadr, the legendary being of Islam, with Mar Elias (St. Elias or Elijah) and Mar Girios (St. George). Scholars have identified several churches in this area that were dedicated to St. George or to St. Elias, and were also associated with the cult of El Khadr and with caves.

Dr. Bikai points out that El Khadr and St. George "both appear as horse-

men... (and) there may have been a continuity in cult traditions throughout the different historical periods — one cult taking the place of another and embodying some of the features of the earlier cult. Although there is presently no evidence for the exact nature of the use of the Jabal Luweibdeh structure during the Islamic era, it is possible — on the basis of what happened in other places — that this Christian church, perhaps dedicated to St. George and perhaps on or near the site of a cultic place for Herakles, in turn became a memorial to El Khadr."

If this is the case, the site of the Jabal Luweibdeh church may reflect a tradition of cultic continuity that spanned a period of some two thousand years — including the Ammonite, Greco-Roman, Byzantine and early/medieval Islamic periods.

A noteworthy contemporary aspect of the excavation and partial restoration of the church is the heartening cooperation it embodies between the public and private sectors. In fact, in some ways the cooperative effort between the Abdul Hameed Shoman Founda-

tion, the Department of Antiquities, and ACOR perpetuates the spirit of cross-cultural synthesis that characterised life in this area in ancient times. This is seen not only in the excavation project, but also in another form in the cultural activities of Darat Al Funun itself, which brings together artists and craftspeople from Jordan, other Arab countries and countries further afield.

Darat Al Funun has produced an impressive detailed and well illustrated booklet in Arabic and English about the excavations and the artifacts found there. This is to be seen as a model of cooperation between the public and private sectors in Jordan today in the service of documenting and appreciating the treasures of our rich ancient legacy. By assuming responsibility for excavating and partly conserving the church, the Shoman family has set a fine example for others in Jordan who might be similarly inspired to save ancient monuments on their property in a cost-effective manner that also makes these treasures easily accessible to the public at large.

Northerners edge towards Aden amid alarm

(Continued from page 1)

Hiswah, between Aden and Little Aden, a western industrial suburb across a bay still held by southerners. Little Aden can only be reached by boat from Aden.

The northern forces also have complete control of Madinat Al Shaab near Al Hiswah, officers at the scene said.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) warned that people would soon start dying of thirst if water supplies were not restored to Aden.

"People are not yet dying of thirst, but this will not take long with temperatures of 40 degrees (Celsius 104 Fahrenheit)," ICRC spokesman Alain Lennartz said.

He added that private wells were providing at most around three litres of untreated water per person per day to the refugee-swollen population of around half a million, well below the World Health Organisation minimum of seven litres.

Mr. Lennartz said the ICRC was negotiating with northern Yemeni forces for access to Aden for ICRC water trucks.

He said ICRC engineers were standing by to repair the main water pumping station for Aden northwest of the city at Bir Nasser, but that they would not move in until they had received guarantees of safe conduct.

But he warned that the repair of Bir Nasser would take several weeks and would not immediately relieve the plight of the parched inhabitants of Aden.

The northern Yemeni authorities denied allegations that their forces were using chemical weapons but accused the southerners of dropping napalm and phos-

phorus bombs.

A northern spokesman quoted by the official news agency SABA said Aden's accusations that the north was using chemical weapons "are aimed at mobilising world opinion so that they can achieve their evil goals" and divide Yemen.

Southern leader Abdul Rahman Al Jifri told KUNA Saturday that the northern forces besieging Aden had bombed the city with "chemical weapons."

However, SABA said foreign journalists had found wounded northern soldiers in Sanaa hospitals with burns from napalm and phosphorus bombs.

In Sanaa, the northern capital, U.N. officials described the water and sanitation situation in Aden and some war-torn areas of northern Yemen as "alarming."

Lack of food, clean water, electricity combined with the seasonal heat "gives us indication that the outbreak of killer epidemic diseases is imminent," said Dr. Awni Al Ani, resident coordinator of U.N. organisations in Yemen.

He said hospitals lacked trained staff, and that dam-

aged and destroyed facilities needed rehabilitation.

"There's almost no medical equipment, medicines are not sufficient, many of the hospitals don't have laboratories or laboratory equipment," said Dr. Awni. "We are very much concerned and dismayed" about Aden's plight.

Outside of Aden, he said there were up to 150,000 displaced people in areas currently held by the government.

Within the southern city, Dr. Awni described 100,000 to 200,000 people as displaced people who moved into Aden from other areas or moved within the city from exposed neighbourhoods to safer quarters.

He said the United Nations was using \$500,000 in emergency funds to buy food and medication, and had asked donor countries for food rations for 400,000 people for three months. Half of the rations would be distributed in Aden and half in the rest of the country.

Also, 6,000 tonnes of food currently available in U.N. warehouses in Aden would be utilised, he said.

Peres: Issues before self-rule

(Continued from page 1)

Riyad Al Zaanoun, who is in charge of health, said the FLO leader told Western diplomats who came to Gaza to greet him that he intends to ask Mr. Rabin for redeployment by August.

Palestinians say the delay in the start of Palestinian self-rule merits no more than a one-month delay for the redeployment.

However, Israel has said no dates are sacred and Yoel

Singer, legal adviser to Mr. Peres, said the earlier delays would mean delays in subsequent stages.

"The agreement on autonomy on the West Bank is much more complicated than the Gaza-Jericho deal and it is hard to say how long it will take," he said in a radio interview.

Thousands of Jews gathered in Jerusalem to pray and protest against any future visit here by Mr. Arafat. Protestors threatened to hold more rallies.

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Gulf Arabs seen unlikely to rush more cash to PLO

DUBAI (AP) — PLO leader Yasser Arafat has melted some of the ice in his relations with Gulf Arab states, but the governments are not likely to rush in with more cash donations to the Palestinians at this stage, diplomats said.

Western Gulf Arabs, now facing budget deficits and huge domestic costs due to weak oil prices, would first want to see how money already donated to Mr. Arafat would be used to start up Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and Jericho, they said.

Mr. Arafat, who returned to Gaza Friday from 27 years of exile, on Saturday asked the oil-rich Arab states to help rebuild Palestinian economic infrastructure, which he said was completely destroyed by decades of Israeli occupation.

He said Gulf countries would not abandon him and complained of international donors' reluctance to make good on pledges of financial support.

Mr. Arafat visited Saudi Arabia in January to try to regain crucial political and financial aid cut when he backed Baghdad in the Gulf crisis over Iraq's seven-month occupation of Kuwait.

The diplomats say reconciliation would be gradual and slow as the Gulf states remain deeply suspicious of Mr. Arafat.

Palestinians believe the restoration of ties between Saudi Arabia and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) would open the door to the revival of ties with other Gulf states.

"The general feeling is that they (Gulf Arabs) want to see how the money will be spent. The PLO's relations with the Gulf have improved from their Gulf war lows, but they still don't trust Mr. Arafat one hundred per cent," a Saudi-based diplomat said.

"They also feel that other countries and not just them should help foot the bill," he added.

added.

An editorial in Saudi newspaper echoed similar views. "Pure logic dictates that the countries benefiting from Middle East peace should come forward with aid and help to the authorities of self-rule," said Al Madina in an editorial.

"The value of strategic, political and even trade benefits that the United States and Europe reaped from peace is hundreds of times bigger than any aid they have given to guarantee the continued stability and the success of peace," it added.

The World Bank and international donors pledged aid of \$2.4 billion over five years after the Israel-PLO deal signed by Israel and the PLO at the White House last September.

Saudi Arabia, the PLO's traditional financier until 1990, has said its share would be more than \$100 million. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Kuwait each said they would contribute \$25 million to the fund.

Mr. Arafat demanded Arab and international support to cover running costs of the Palestinian authority before returning.

He received total of \$60 million for running civilian affairs. The PLO was seeking \$27 million more to cover the Palestinian authority's budget deficit. According to PLO estimates, the authority's budget is \$170 million.

Saudi Arabia at a donor's meeting in Paris granted \$10 million for the Palestinian government's running expenses and the UAE and Kuwait were reported to have given \$8 million.

But the diplomats said they did not expect any more Gulf payments in the near future.

They said the PLO was expected to dispatch an official to Saudi Arabia soon for talks on funds for Gaza and Jericho and on the possibility

of Saudi Arabia resuming

monthly grants it had given the PLO before the Gulf war.

Saudi Arabia had after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait suspended a monthly grant of \$6 million to the PLO which Saudi King Fahd ordered in 1989 after completing payments on a 10-year aid pledge

of \$850 million.

But diplomats said Riyadh, although supportive of the peace moves in the Middle East, still appears reluctant to return to directly bankrolling the PLO and was more in favour of financing specific Palestinian projects in the territories.

Vatican calls for end to arms trade spiral

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The Vatican has urged world governments and arms manufacturers to rein in the escalating trade in deadly weaponry, saying traditional arguments in favour of arms sales were morally unjustifiable.

In a 36-page document on conventional weaponry, experts from the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace chaired by Cardinal Roger Etchegaray firmly rejected the argument that "if one state refuses to provide arms another will."

Such a stance was "without any moral foundation," the council said. "The Vatican recognised the right of states to legitimate defence, but the fact that a state can legitimately possess arms and hence implicitly transfer or receive them brings with it serious obligations."

"Arms can never in any way be treated like other goods exchanged on world or internal market," the council said in the report entitled "The international arms trade, an ethical reflection," calling on governments to resist economic pressures to increase arms sales.

Acknowledging the economic disruption that could be caused by job losses in the arms sector, such difficulties "cannot legitimate the maintenance of an arms industry simply because of the risks involved in readjustment or in order to preserve jobs."

It insisted that governments had a duty to ensure the retraining of workers affected by military conversion. The document denounced illegal arms sales which not

able led to the rearming of Iraq, condemning the use of false documents and the violation of arms embargoes.

"This same severe judgement also applies to companies that transfer components or dual-use products when they are well aware of the probability of their being used for hostile purposes," it pointed out.

The council warned that selling arms to all-comers could expose countries to war on their own territories, and said that the "arbitrary" sale of weapons to poor countries posed the most serious threat to peace.

"In some developing countries, military expenditures are higher than those for health and education combined. This is particularly tragic in those countries where people are unable to meet their basic needs because war is destroying their very means of subsistence," the report said.

Without waiting for completion of a code of conduct being worked on by the five permanent nations of the U.N. Security Council — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — the council recommended that competent bodies negotiate limits or a ban on certain categories of weaponry.

It suggested that landmines "which cause unacceptable damage to civilian populations long after the cessation of hostilities," and other "excessively injurious" weapons could be subject to such restrictions.

It also called for international norms and sanctions to curtail the activities of arms traders who were "always ready to offer their services."

CONGRATULATIONS

The Jordanian-American Friendship Society would like to congratulate Ambassador and Mrs. Wesley W. Egan, Jr. on the 218th Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America.

Investors consider an Islamic bank in occupied lands

AMMAN (AP) — Palestinian businessmen are considering launching a bank that will be governed by Islamic laws in the Israeli-occupied territories, a would-be founding member said Sunday.

The Arab Islamic Bank will be the first of its kind in territories that Israel seized in the 1967 Middle East war.

The move appeared to be aimed at luring the predominantly Muslim inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza, where many prefer Islamic banking laws and regulations that prohibit interest-taking, as dictated by the Koran. The Muslim's holy book regards interest as usury.

Islamic organisations, upset by the West-inspired banking system in the Arab and Muslim world, pressed their governments to introduce Islamic banks in the early 1970s to provide its clients with interest-free transactions.

Businessmen have become interested in inaugurating banks and financial institutions in the territories since Israel and the PLO signed a landmark peace accord in September that paved the way for Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho.

Approving requests for new banks must come from Israel, the PLO and Jordan according to economic agreements reached separately earlier this year.

Ghazi Zakareh, a member of the Arab-Islamic Bank's Founding committee, told the Associated Press he had received "a verbal go-ahead" from Israel, Jordan, and the PLO to launch the bank with an initial capital of \$20 million.

He said a four-member founding committee would visit the occupied territories this week for an orientation tour and meetings with potential Palestinian shareholders.

Mr. Zakareh declined to disclose names and numbers of the establishing committee and of the potential shareholders.

He said the new bank, which will start operation "within a year," will participate in financing development projects in the West Bank and Gaza and possibly launching its own projects.

He said a feasibility study launched by the Bank's founding committee showed that "many Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza favoured dealing with banks that operate according to Islamic laws."

Volcker group urges World Bank focus on private sector

PARIS (AFP) — A revamped World Bank must lead the way in orienting development aid to private sector needs and refocus its work on areas private lenders and investors are unable or unwilling to tackle, a group of prominent financial experts says.

The Bretton Woods Commission, led by former U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) chairman Paul Volcker, said official development assistance remains necessary, especially in the poorest countries, for investment in infrastructure and human resources.

Widespread poverty in many countries, the economic transformation of the former communist world, population growth and environmental pressures continue to pose "major development challenges."

But, with donors facing severe budget constraints, development aid "has to be made more efficient and effective," it said in a report drawn up for the 50th anniversary of the Bretton Woods institutions.

The "central challenge," it said, is to help governments "provide an institutional and policy environment in which the private sector can flourish — in ways that alleviate poverty and meet other critical development goals."

In a confidential report obtained by Agence France-

Presse, the commission called for a sweeping shake-up of aid policies and the working of aid institutions, especially in the World Bank family.

It said the biggest task facing the bank and its affiliates was to adapt to "a world that has turned from public sector dominance towards private enterprise and free markets."

The Bank Group must play a "central role" in achieving a private sector orientation in official assistance, it said. Official aid "should be directed only at what the private sector cannot or will not do."

The bank "must change the way it does business, emphasising its role as a mobiliser of resources — private and public, intellectual and financial — and not as a lender of money to governments."

To achieve this, the bank should "shift more of its activity towards its private sector-oriented subsidiaries," the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), the report said.

It should "make greater use of financing, guarantees and innovative financing techniques" to encourage investment.

It should "consistently support private sector development with aid strategies that encourage privatisation, financial sector reform and the creation of appropriate institutional and regulatory frameworks."

The bank group should "do more to speed the transformation from state to market. It still supports too many state-owned enterprises, the IFC is constrained by limited capital in the medium term,

and MIGA remains very small," the report said.

It should expand "activities that deal directly with the private sector to catalyse important investments," the commission said.

Calling for acceleration of the IFC's growth, it said increased funding could be achieved through transfer of bank earnings or direct lending by the bank to the IFC. MIGA's capital could also be boosted by borrowing from the bank.

The bank group also needs to "increase its own efficiency" by ensuring better implementation of its projects and programmes, and should streamline internal processes and "significantly cut staff."

The report recognised that "strong political leadership" from the major industrial countries would be needed to maintain the funding of the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank subsidiary providing "soft" finance for the poorest nations.

But it said that while IDA will still largely depend on funds from richer countries, over time, a larger share of this burden should be assumed by the more successful middle income countries "as their GNP per capita rises."

Major industrial countries should meanwhile "lead an effort to assign... distinct roles" to multilateral development institutions, some of which had "weak policies and practices."

The World Bank, with "an enlarged role" in aid coordination, should work more closely with the regional development banks, and they should "divide responsibilities" and "eliminate overlaps," the commission said.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST MONDAY JULY 4, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: U.S. Independence Day is for the most part well expected and will be well spent in... relaxation and attending to family activity with close friends and associates of common purpose. Stay near home.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) This is a good day to discuss new ideas with associates. Any delays should be accepted philosophically. Take needed exercise.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Plan your affairs on a more satisfying basis and have more security. A new contact could give you good suggestions for a new assignment.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Have talks with partners so you can take advantage of a new situation which arises. Analyse your progress in the evening.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Stop putting off tasks at hand and gain more profits. Take treatments to improve health and appearance.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Jump into regular routines without delay and get much accomplished, whether of a business or personal nature and you will be pleased with the results.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Be more willing to compromise at home for the sake of harmony. Study projects which could give you added income for the future.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You are now able to get the support of associates in a new project you have in mind. Use extreme care in motion today to prevent problems.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Analyse your financial status and find better ways of adding to abundance. Listen to what an expert has to suggest for your success.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Go after your aims in a most positive way and gain excellent results. Strive for increased happiness. Be poised for any circumstance.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Take steps to improve the quality of your life. Let your conversation with others be quiet and cultured and you will be respected.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Sociability is the keynote today and much can be accomplished. You are able to gain personal aim at this time which proves fruitful.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) This is a good day to gain the respect of higher-ups who can give you the support you need. Many benefits can come your way now.

Another pleasure comes to you from **CELLAR**

Take a break from World Cup & enjoy our Music Night with **Rock 'N Roll Band**

On Wed. 6th of June at 9:00 pm.

Reservations - next to Sight & Sound
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From the day I was born my life has been hard.

THIS IS RIDICULOUS! YOU HAVE AN EASY LIFE!

Starting now, my life has been very hard.

Andy Capp

JUST THINK HOW MUCH EASIER LIFE WOULD BE IF YOU GOT YOURSELF A LITTLE JOB.

YOU WOULDN'T BE IN DEBT ALL THE TIME, NEVER SHORT OF BEER MONEY.

SOUNDS LIKE HEAVEN, BUT LET ME THINK ABOUT IT...

JUST LIKE HEAVEN - HE'D LIKE TO GET IN THE BUT NOT JUST YET!

Mutt'n'Jeff

YOU'RE THE MOST ABSENT-MINDED PERSON I KNOW! NOW YOU LOST MY GOOD UMBRELLA!

I'LL BUY YOU ANOTHER UMBRELLA MUTT!

THE LITTLE GUY FORGETS EVERYTHING YESTERDAY HE LEFT HIS HAT IN A RESTAURANT!

NOW LOOK, JEFF! WHEN EVER YOU GO OUT, THE A PIECE OF THIS BRIGHT RED RIBBON AROUND THINGS LIKE THIS!

THAT'S TO REMIND YOU SO YOU WON'T FORGET TO BRING THINGS HOME WITH YOU WITH RED RIBBON ON IT!

HI, PAL?

جاشيا لينا

THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen

CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK

CHIPS

"God gave me two ears so I could listen to you with one and the TV with the other!"

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ENVOW

RORYS

CROSCH

DAUSIN

Answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: CUBIC UPPER KITTEN MERVACE
Answer: What the guests considered the baker's masterpiece — A PIECE OF CAKE

THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jorgensen

ACROSS

1 Pack away

5 Alaskan island

8 Radio words

13 Now

14 Rules

15 Cease

16 Years

17 Airs

18 Titled lady

19 Sharp

20 Dots

21 Assist

22 Chicks

24 Lowest deck

26 Indian leader

28 Program for a meeting

32 Author Loos

36 Church calendar

37 — 38 well

38 In the same group

39 Prot' fess

40 Line through a circle: abbr.

41 Different

42 Stadium cheers

43 Broad spread

44 Church official

45 Indian, a

46 Switch words

50 Gaming place

54 Stage show

57 Not fully closed

59 Sarcasm

60 Above

61 Part of a July night

62 — See Scrooge

63 Track coats with pattern and you will be pleased with the results.

64 Avon of ballet

65 British composer

66 Classic

67 Prohibitionists

68 Panderer river

69 Historic date

70 Lanza was one

71 Certain ship's writers

72 Historic time

10 Signal

11 Pack down

12 Grade measurement

14 Figurative term

21 Graciously

23 Sator's jacket

25 Asian land

27 Writer Barrett

29 Playwright

30 One out cards

31 Multitude

32 Inhabited with wonder

33 Blush color

34 — "grit"

36 Brass part

39 Florence's

43 Statue up

45 Single

47 Betimes

49 Hindi ascetic

51 Declares

52 Actress Kean

53 The Sons of

54 Kalle —

54 Boulder wear

55 Always

56 Dogs' does

58 Blue and power

61 Blue

Financial
Markets
Jordan Times
in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

Foreign Exchange Market Summary (June 27 — July 1, 1994)

AMMAN — The dollar rose modestly against major European currencies at the end of last week, while retreating against the yen. It ended the week 0.778 per cent higher against the mark, 0.93 per cent higher against sterling and 1.80 per cent lower against the yen.

The U.S. unit appreciated sharply against other major currencies Monday, in view of increased demand, and expectations that a fall below 99.50 yen level, reached earlier that day, was unlikely. Meanwhile, expectations pointed to a probable Fed tightening to support the dollar during the next scheduled meeting of the FOMC on July 5, 1994.

The dollar witnessed a relapse Tuesday, however, especially against the yen. Its decline came on the back of a drop in U.S. stock and bond prices, which fell after the release of positive U.S. economic data, suggesting probable inflationary pressure. Home sales showed a larger than expected rise in May, while Consumer Confidence reached its highest level in four years. However, conflicting expectations concerning possible Fed action persisted after the strong economic data.

The U.S. unit registered modest gains against major European currencies Wednesday, while continuing to decline against the yen. It retreated below 99 yen on fear that the new Japanese government might take a firm position in its trade talks with the U.S. A preliminary announcement by the new Japanese prime minister fuelled these fears, as he expressed reservations to reducing taxes and increasing domestic spending as means of stimulating the Japanese economy, something which the Clinton administration considers necessary to reduce its trade deficit with Japan.

Meanwhile, reports indicated that the dollar declined below 98.55 yen during trading hours, its lowest level against the yen since WWII, before rising slightly at the close. The dollar continued its retreat against the yen Thursday, while remaining stable against major European currencies. Reports indicated that the market failed to react to news that the Clinton administration would postpone trade measures against Japan. Negative sentiment against the dollar, however, pushed it to a new low of 98.47 yen.

In quiet trading, the U.S. unit rose against major currencies Friday. Dollar short-covering ahead of the 4th of

July holiday in the U.S., pushed the U.S. unit higher. The dollar penetrated the 1.60 mark and 99 yen levels during trading hours, on continued Bank of Japan intervention and short covering. However, profit-taking and renewed fears of inflationary pressure, after the release of June national association of purchasing managers (NAPM) index, limited the dollar's rise.

The NAPM reached its highest level in six years, fuelling further debate over what the FOMC might do during its scheduled meeting on July 5, 1994.

The dollar thus closed at 1.5965 marks, 98.75 yen and at \$1.5380 to the pound at the end of the week.

New York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the U.S. Dollar

Currency	24/6/94 Close	1/7/94 Close	Percent Change
Sterling Pound	1.5525	1.5380	(0.93)%
Deutsche Mark	1.5840	1.5965	(0.78)%
Swiss Franc	1.3277	1.3385	(0.81)%
French Franc	5.4285	5.4670	(0.70)%
Japanese Yen	100.53	98.75	1.80 %

USD Per JTC

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 3/7/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6880	0.6900
Sterling Pound	1.0574	1.0627
Deutsche Mark	0.4304	0.4326
Swiss Franc	0.5131	0.5157
French Franc	0.1257	0.1263
Japanese Yen	0.6968	0.7003
Dutch Guilder	0.3839	0.3858
Swedish Krona	0.0434	0.0436
Italian Lira	0.0434	0.0436
Belgian Franc	0.0434	0.0436

Per 100

Western firms vie for deals with Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Western firms, eager for a future slice of Iraq's lucrative markets, are falling over one another in the rush to set up deals ahead of any lifting of the U.S. Gulf crisis trade blockade, diplomats said.

With or without agreement from their own governments,

they are arriving in Baghdad in droves, initiating deals that can quickly be activated once embargoed Iraqi crude oil flows to international markets again.

Their aim is to win favour with (President) Saddam

Husseini's government," one diplomat said. "They believe the trend to remove sanctions is gathering momentum and they do not want to miss the train."

Iraq, a booming market for Western business before its 1990 invasion of Kuwait, has the world's second largest oil reserves after Saudi Arabia.

Gulf crisis sanctions, imposed shortly after the invasion, remain in force but with Iraq showing willingness to comply with Gulf war ceasefire demands on scrapping of its weapons of mass destruction an easing of the blockade may finally be in sight.

With that in mind, businessmen are flocking to Baghdad.

In the forefront come the French and German businessmen. In the past, they did not publicise their visits to Baghdad but recently they have changed tactics.

Top French businessmen, on a recent visit to Baghdad, beamed with satisfaction as they walked over a mosaic of former U.S. President George Bush on the way to limousines waiting for them outside Baghdad's smart Al Rashid Hotel.

"The French (businessmen) have never severed contacts, nor have the Germans," said the diplomat.

Both Germany and France, Baghdad's traditional trade partners, were major suppliers of civilian and military hardware to Iraq. Baghdad has already intimated an oil contract with France's

Total S.A. to develop the giant Nahr Umar field, which could produce 500,000 barrels per day (b/d).

"Sanctions or no sanctions, any Western firm would salivate over such a prospect," one Western diplomat said.

On June 12, President Saddam received Hans Stergen, head of the foreign relations committee at the German parliament. Mr. Stergen said his visit to Baghdad was a personal initiative.

But diplomats said the trip, the first by a ranking German official to Baghdad since the end of the 1991 Gulf war, was to ensure that German firms had their share of Iraq's markets, when sanctions are named.

They said both German and French governments were under pressure from their powerful business conglomerates to do something about Iraq sanctions.

The Chinese are also coming. Last month, President Saddam received Wang Changyi, China's foreign ministry undersecretary. Mr. Wang headed a large delegation that spent two days conversing with Iraq's ministers of industry, agriculture and oil.

China, France and Russia — all permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — are seeking a way to recognise Iraq's efforts to comply with arms-related U.N. Security Council conditions imposed as part of the 1991 Gulf war ceasefire.

Japanese brokers see profits rebound

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan's "Big Four" securities houses, benefitting from a recovery in commission revenue, have announced their best earnings figures in three years and forecast further improvements in the year ahead.

But the pre-tax earnings posted by Nomura Securities Co. Ltd., Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd., Nikko Securities Co. Ltd. and Yamaichi Securities Co. Ltd. were still down sharply from the record earnings at the turn of the decade.

"Despite slowdowns in individual consumption and capital investment, the stockmarket was relatively firm throughout the year with increased turnover. But sentiment was not dramatic," market leader Nomura said.

A major factor behind the earnings recovery was the boost to commissions which accompanied a rebound in equity trading. Buoyed by heavy foreign buying, average turnover on the Tokyo Stock Exchange soared to 390 billion yen (\$3.75 billion) a day, up from 140 billion yen a year earlier.

Other positive factors were increased revenue from underwriting, which accompanied the first public share offerings in four years, and a rally in the Japanese government bond market for most of the year. Revenue from investment trusts was meanwhile buoyed by booming markets elsewhere in Asia.

Nomura posted pre-tax earnings of 50.7 billion yen, up sharply from 2.38 billion yen a year earlier. The country's biggest securities company said operating revenue climbed 16 per cent to 399 billion yen in the same period.

The company forecast a further increase in earnings to 90 billion yen in the current year with revenue climbing to 430 billion yen.

Daiwa announced a profit of 52 billion yen, reversing a loss of 7.27 billion yen a year earlier and displacing Nomura as the country's most profitable stockbroker. Operating revenue rebounded 20 per cent to 297 billion yen.

The company forecast improved earnings of 60 billion yen for this year with sales increasing marginally to 300 billion yen.

Nikko posted a profit of 35 billion yen, up sharply from 2.5 billion yen a year earlier. Operating income rebounded 21 per cent to 279 billion yen.

The company also forecast a higher profit of 50 billion yen for the current year with operating revenue climbing to 290 billion yen.

Yamaichi announced a profit of 17.9 billion yen, reversing two years of losses including its 37.4 billion yen loss a year earlier. Operating revenue climbed 25 per cent to 236 billion yen.

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Cruyff scapegoat saves Spain

Spain 3, Switzerland 0

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Andoni Zubizarreta, chased out of Barcelona by coach Johan Cruyff, showed the Dutchman he was still a top-class goalkeeper with a handful of brilliant saves to ensure Spain reached the World Cup quarter-finals here Saturday.

Cruyff put the blame on Zubizarreta after his team's 4-0 thrashing by AC Milan in the European Cup final and the goalkeeper signed for Valencia earlier this week.

Zubizarreta is taking his revenge at USA 94 and the Spanish coach, Javier Clemente, was happy to praise his keeper following the 3-0 second-round victory over Switzerland.

He said: "I don't like picking out players but Zubizarreta was the best on the field. He showed he is still among the world's best goalkeepers. Two saves stood out in particular. In the 11th minute Stephane Chapuisat ran rings round Spanish captain Miguel Nadal and set up Thomas Bickel whose shot was tipped on to the bar and over the top by Zubizarreta. After 65 minutes the goal-

keeper prevented a Swiss equaliser with an instant reaction stop to push away for a corner Adrian Kruip's first-time lunge at substitute Jorg Studer's cross.

Spain are unlikely to delight the purists in this tournament but a display of power and determination took them past Switzerland who were unable to turn their best spell in the second half into goals.

The Swiss coach, Englishman Roy Hodgson, was bitter afterwards. He said: "We outplayed them 3-0. Show us some sympathy. If it had been a boxing match the judges would have given it to us."

"We were better than them for long periods. We had three forwards up, did everything to score and it was not surprising in the end we got caught on the break."

They were understandably unhappy about a controversial first-half goal which set them on the road to defeat. It came straight from an incident when Dutch referee Mario van der Ende waved

play on instead of giving a free kick when Chapuisat was crudely brought down by Nadal as he bore down on goal.

Straight from Nadal's challenge Hierro broke at speed from his own half, exchanged passes with Jose Maria Bakero, forced his way past a clutch of defenders and ran through to sidefoot the ball past the advancing Marco Pascolo from 25 metres.

What really angered Hodgson was that Sergi was rushing back from an offside position as Hierro broke through.

"You can't play attacking football. It favours defensive sides," said Hodgson. Spain should have stretched their lead in the 49th minute when Andoni Goikoetxea shot against the post with only Pascolo to beat after another rapid counter-attack.

Switzerland were under severe pressure but responded with their most sustained spell of the match only to find Zubizarreta blocking their way.



Sweden's star Martin Dahlin celebrates after scoring his first goal in Sunday's match against Saudi Arabia (AFP photo)

Saudis upset by weather taunts

DALLAS (R) — Saudi Arabian players said Saturday they were upset their surprise success at the World Cup finals was being put down to the hot weather.

Saudi Arabia made it to the second round and were to play Sweden in Dallas Sunday at 1705 GMT (see separate story).

Defender Mohammad Abdul Jawad said the team was not getting the credit it had earned and added that suggestions the Saudis preferred hot conditions were completely wrong.

"Everyone should know that we do not play in the daytime in Saudi Arabia," he told a news conference. "We always play in the night-time when temperatures go down."

"Everyone is saying the Saudi team has an advantage in this weather. That's completely wrong. When the weather gets colder, nobody says there is an advantage to the other team."

Abdul Jawad said people were overlooking a great improvement in Saudi results in recent years, including victory in the World Youth Cup. "Nobody has ever said that the Saudi team has improved

a lot yet we've proved it on the field," he added.

Saudi Arabia's two wins to date at the finals over Morocco and Belgium were the first for an Asian country apart from North Korea's shock win over Italy in 1966.

Abdul Jawad said the players were also annoyed that untrue things were being written about the financial incentives made to them with stories that they had been given \$100,000 each for reaching the finals as well as a Mercedes car.

"That's rubbish," he said. "I will be honest with you. What we received for qualifying was \$25,000 for each player."

He said no extra cash had been given for reaching the second round as yet.

Abdul Jawad said the players were not interested in financial inducements.

"The most important, most beautiful present we get is the happiness of our people back home," he said.

"We play for our country. We put our hearts for our country."

Abdul Jawad said the players were all Muslims who prayed five times a day and had converted a room at the

team headquarters into a small mosque for this purpose.

But he said their religion was flexible and did not interfere with training.

Midfielder Saeed Owairan, scorer of a brilliant individual goal against Belgium, said the support of the Saudi royal family and king Fahd was important to the team.

"He is our father and our sponsor," he said. "He was very happy with our success and encouraged us to do more."

Argentine coach, Jorge Solaer, did not deny that royal pressures extended to team selection but said this posed no more problem than in other countries.

"There is an influence from the media," he said. "I know about that because there is probably no country in the world where the media influence is stronger than in Argentina."

Abdul Jawad said Sweden would have to beware at the Dallas Cotton Bowl Stadium.

"We respect everyone and if we lose to Sweden, we know it will be to a big team," he said. "But it will be hard for them to beat us."

Refs told to go back to school

LOS ANGELES, California (AFP) — FIFA's part-time referees came under fire Saturday for two controversial decisions which played a decisive part in Belgium and Switzerland going out of the World Cup.

Kurt Rottlisberger, from neutral Switzerland, and Marin Van der Ende of Netherlands both earn their living as teachers and the Belgian and Swiss coaches felt they would be better employed staying in their classrooms.

Defending champions Germany, inspired by two goals from 34-year-old Rudi Voller, beat Belgium 3-2 and now play Mexico or Bulgaria while Spain finished eventual 3-0 winners Switzerland. They tackle Nigeria or Italy in the quarter-finals.

A disputed 15th minute goal by Fernando Hierro meant the Swiss were always in danger of a counter-attack as they pushed forward in search of an equaliser. And they duly conceded two other goals in the last 20 minutes.

Rottlisberger waved play on in Germany's match against Belgium when Josip Weber went sprawling under Thomas Helmer's challenge from behind.

It was just the sort of offence FIFA had insisted would be outlawed in this World Cup and a penalty could have put Belgium only a goal in arrears.

"It was a scandal," said Belgium coach Paul Van Himst. "He shouldn't have refereed another international match. I'll be interested to see what FIFA does."

"If I was in charge such a referee would be sent home immediately and not referee again."

Spain's crucial first goal came immediately after Van der Ende allowed Miguel Nadal to back down Stephane Chapuisat as he bore down on goal.

Nadal was sent off by Danish referee Peter Mikkelsen, another teacher, for a similar incident in Spain's opening match against South Korea. Hierro broke away and scored at the net and with Sergi running back into an inside position.

"To make matters worse it was an offside goal," said Switzerland's English coach Roy Hodgson.

Spain's third goal came from a penalty awarded when Ferrer was fouled. However, if Mr. Van der Ende had been consistent Ferrer would have not been on the pitch.

The Dutch referee booked Switzerland's Marc Hottiger for kicking the ball away but 10 minutes later allowed Ferrer to do the very same thing.

The right back had already been booked for a foul and another yellow card would have led to his dismissal.

"It was very tough game for us. We didn't now who our opponents were going to be two days ago. I do believe that the rules in that respect are not very good for us and maybe they should be changed."

"We had only two days to recover from the previous game and two days is not enough when you are playing for the World Cup."

Los Angeles do not love World Cup

LOS ANGELES (R) — Nearly two in three residents of the Los Angeles area, where the World Cup final will be played July 17, said they were largely uninterested in the tournament, the Los Angeles Times reported Saturday.

A times poll, conducted last Sunday when the United States lost to Romania 1-0, revealed that almost 60 per cent of Angelenos did not care much about the cup.

Younger people showed a touch more interest, however.

The survey of 1,023 residents predictably demonstrated that men were more interested than women, and that Hispanics were more involved in soccer's quadrennial showcase than other ethnic and racial groups in the area.

The newspaper, which has devoted from four to six pages a day to the World Cup, reported that 39 per cent of those polled said they were following the finals very or somewhat closely, with 14 per cent claiming to be seriously following the

games. More than a third were not watching the matches at all, and 60 per cent were largely uninterested in the event.

A full 55 per cent of residents 18 to 29 years old said they were interested in the competition — the highest rate shown by any of the groups polled.

Despite the poll results, the four matches played at the Rose Bowl in suburban Pasadena have either been sold out or very near to capacity.

Maradona admits medication

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Diego Maradona has admitted he made a mistake taking the pills that caused his expulsion from the World Cup and an end to his professional soccer career.

The star striker said Brazil was now his pick to win the cup, which concludes July 17 in the Rose Bowl.

In an interview with Buenos Aires daily Clarin at the Dallas airport, Maradona said he and his personal physician Daniel Cernini "forgot to report to (team doctor Ernesto) Ugaldé that I was taking

pills."

"I took those pills as if they were aspirin. Thousands of players do it, but the cost is always higher when Maradona does it," the midfielder said.

Maradona called FIFA's decision Thursday to suspend him for taking the banned substances, which included ephedrine, an asthma medication that also is a stimulant, "unfair, because they are making me pay very dearly for a tiny mistake."

"I never imagined I would be left out of the World Cup

after so much sacrifice," Maradona said. "I'd like to remind the people who suspended me that I trained by myself for a long time, and above all, that I never needed drugs to play well."

Asked if his decision to retire was final, the 33-year-old said, "Yes, it's all over. I returned to play my fourth World Cup."

I gave it my best effort, but it ended badly. Now I want to spend most of my time with my family. Soccer's over for good."

Decade of terror culminates in Escobar shooting

DALLAS (R) — The gunning down of World Cup player Andres Escobar Saturday was the most chilling incident yet in a decade of death threats, terror and retribution which have almost destroyed Colombian soccer.

Escobar, shot 12 times by gunmen in Medellin and killed, apparently because of an own goal he scored in the U.S. finals, was by no means the first victim of a national sport plagued by the influence of drug barons and betting cartels.

A referee was shot dead in 1989, the national championships were suspended for a season and the Colombian 1990 World Cup squad was almost disbanded in earlier incidents.

Most of the problems have centred on Medellin, once the world's cocaine-trafficking capital, where Escobar's Atletico Nacional club has often been accused of being controlled by the drug lords.

As long ago as October 1983, Colombian Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla claimed Atletico Nacional and several other professional teams were run by traffickers.

A few months later he was

assassinated and the government said drug barons were responsible.

Two years later, Hernan Botero, a banker who the government said was a shareholder of Atletico Nacional, was extradited to the United States and sentenced to 30 years in jail for laundering money.

In 1988, a Colombian book entitled "Cocaine Horsemen" alleged Octavio Piedrahita was another shareholder. Piedrahita was kidnapped in July of that year and found dead on a farm outside the city as he was preparing to sell the team, according to local journalists.

Referees also came under threat in 1988 when Armando Perez was kidnapped for 24 hours and told that officials who made wrong decisions in the championship playoffs would be killed.

Referee Alvaro Ortega was killed by two gunmen in November 1989 after officiating at a match in Medellin between the other city team Deportivo Independiente and America Cali.

Ortega had disallowed a Deportivo Independiente goal and had sent off one of the team's players in an earlier match.



Colombian defender Andres Escobar (left) during their first round World Cup game at tries to stop U.S. player Eric Wynalda's shot Pasadena's Rose Bowl June 22 (AFP photo)

An anonymous caller said he and his bosses had lost a lot of money as a result of Ortega's decisions.

The government then intervened to try to clean out criminal elements from the country's professional clubs and the championship was suspended even though Col-

ombia had qualified for the 1990 World Cup.

In January 1990, German Gomez Garcia, the president of Bogota's Millonarios Club, was shot and wounded while driving his car by two passing gunmen on a motorcycle.

A month later, Colombian World Cup squad prepara-

tions were disrupted when a gambling group calling itself Cleanliness in Colombian Soccer threatened to kill players, coaches and journalists if the influence of drug barons was not removed.

After the World Cup, the South American Soccer Confederation suspended a Li-

bertadores Cup match due to be played in Medellin after Brazilian club Vasco da Gama protested that Uruguayan referee Juan Cardellino and his linesmen had been threatened by six men totting sub-machineguns and revolvers.

Colombia came to the 1994 finals among the favourites but even before the tournament began there were problems when the U.S. authorities refused a visa to a member of their federation.

"It seemed reasonably clear that the man had a long record of drug dealing," said U.S. organising chief Alan Rothenberg.

Before their second match with the United States, manager Francisco Maturana and midfielder Gabriel Gomez received threats of death if Gomez was not replaced by fellow Atletico Nacional player Herman Gaviria.

Gomez declined to play and Gaviria took his place but Colombia lost 2-1, with Escobar opening the score inadvertently with an own goal, and the South Americans went out of the tournament.

Escobar's death was the tragic sequel.

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Brazil plan their own 4th of July fireworks

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP)

Six years to the day after the United States was awarded the World Cup, the U.S. team get the chance to prove just how far they've come when they take on mighty Brazil for a place in the quarterfinals.

Brazil are hoping to spoil America's Independence Day holiday, and it is possible that coach Carlos Alberto Parreira will sacrifice some attacking flair in the face of the United States' robust defence.

Captain Rai and fellow midfielder Zinho were left out of the side in the second half of a practice game Saturday.

Left back Branco and Mazinho, a substitute against Sweden, played in their place with Leonardo, who has played left-back so far, pushed up into midfield.

The new formation would not please critics who want to see more attacking from midfield.

Dunga, Mauro Silva and Mazinho are physical players with a high work rate. Leonardo is fast, but not likely to create the spark from midfield expected of the legendary three-times world champions.

Parreira would not be drawn on whether Palmeiras defender Mazinho would play, but added: "He has a nice touch game, and he added a lot to us when we put him on against Sweden."

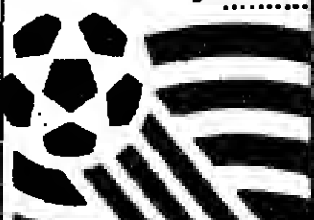
The match at Stanford Stadium is the hottest ticket in San Francisco.

Stanford venue director Peter Bridgewater has been busy arranging a few extras for the match — like fireworks and enormous U.S. and Brazilian flags.

Parreira is trying to shrug off the hype.

"I do not accept any other responsibility than getting through to the quarterfinals," he said. "That is the only responsibility we have now in the United States on

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Netherlands vs. Ireland in Orlando at 19.05 Amman time.
Brazil vs. U.S. in Stanford at 22.35 Amman time.

the Fourth of July."

U.S. manager Bora Milutinovic keeps saying that nothing is impossible in football. But so far he has declined to outline his plan for replacing suspended midfielder John Harkes.

He could give Claudio Reyna some playing time if he has recovered from a nagging hamstring injury.



Brazilian World Cup soccer player Mauro Silva (left) tries to stop teammate Romario (right) while Branco looks on during a training session at Santa Clara University Saturday. (AFP photo)

He could use defensive midfielder Mike Burns, or he could start the more forward-thinking Hugo Perez for the first time in the tournament.

Whatever he decides, defence against Brazil's proven scorers will be crucial. Milutinovic is counting on defender Alexi Lalas to mark Romario, who scored in each of Brazil's first-round matches.

So far Lalas has been successful on his marking missions against Switzerland's

Stephane Chapuisat, Colombian Faustino Asprille and Romanian Florin Raducioiu.

"Obviously, I will be hanging around with Romario," Lalas said. "He's such a brilliant player and I have seen him play a lot. He's so quick and if you give him time and space he's devastating."

U.S. sweeper Marcelo Balboa is set to reach an international milestone by collecting his 94th cap, surpassing Bruce Murray's U.S. record 93.

Schumacher wins French Grand Prix

MAGNY COUR, France (AP) — Michael Schumacher won a hot French Grand Prix Sunday while Nigel Mansell's return to Formula One lasted a bit more than half the race.

Schumacher in a Benetton-Ford took his sixth victory of the season and eighth of his career to easily beat Damon Hill of Britain in a Williams-Renault more than 12 seconds behind at the end.

Gerhard Berger of Austria in a Ferrari took third 52 seconds back, the only other car on the same lap as Schumacher.

Temperatures were above 30 degrees C (86 F) on a sunny day in central France with the heat on the track more than 50 C (122 F).

Only 11 cars of the starting 26 were still running at the end of the 72 laps, on the 4.25-kilometre (2.641-mile) circuit, 306 kilometres, (190.18 miles).

Mansell, who won the first two races in Magny Cours in 1991 and 1992, dropped out after 46 laps as his Williams-Renault slowed to a stop on the circuit.

Henri-Harald Frentzen of Germany and Andrea D'Agostini of Italy were fourth and sixth in Sauber-Mercedes with Pier-Luigi Martini of Italy fifth in a Minardi-Ford.

Schumacher was in the second row behind Hill and Mansell but had an excellent start to go between the two Williams-Renaults and have the lead by the first corner. Hill stayed about a second behind Schumacher for 20 laps then Schumacher turned up the speed and built a 8-second lead by the 26th lap.

By the midway point, 36 laps, it was up to more than 11 seconds before he pitted for tires to allow Hill into first briefly.

Hill pitted on the 45th lap and Schumacher went back into first and built up a 29-second lead by the 50th lap. Schumacher was able to pit again and lose just 14 seconds of the lead and went on comfortably to the victory.

The hot temperatures took care of many cars and two potential challengers took themselves out in a matter of seconds.

Sampras wins 2nd Wimbledon title

WIMBLEDON (AP) — In a brutal display of power tennis, Pete Sampras outplayed Goran Ivanisevic in straight sets Sunday to capture his second consecutive Wimbledon title.

In a match that featured 42 aces and only three service breaks, Sampras overcame Ivanisevic's bludgeoning serves to post a 7-6 (7-2), 7-6 (7-5) 6-0 victory for his fifth Grand Slam championship.

The match ended after 1 hour, 55 minutes with Sampras driving a low backhand serve return which forced Ivanisevic into a forehand volley error.

Sampras flung his racket into the centre court stands, then threw his shirt and towel to the fans.

The match was dominated by big serving from both players — with Ivanisevic hitting 25 aces (including 16 in the first set) and Sampras 17. There were few rallies of more than three shots. But it was Sampras who had a better all-around game and played his best at the crucial moments.

"I really couldn't play any better than today," he said. "I'm really happy that I didn't play a bad match this whole fortnight. I'm extremely happy that I repeated."

Sampras, the No. 1 seed and world's top-ranked player, became the first man to

win two straight Wimbledon crowns since Boris Becker in 1985-86.

He did it with a commanding display of serving, volleying and returning. He never lost serve and faced only two break points the whole match, while capitalising on three of 11 break points against Ivanisevic.

"I didn't get down on myself when he was aching me two or three times a game," Sampras said. "I knew the match today was going to come down to a couple of points. I got them and that was the difference."

Ivanisevic, who lost to Andre Agassi in five sets in the 1992 final, said Sampras was unstoppable.

"The guy was just too good," he said. "He played unbelievably. He couldn't play better... It's hurting me because I didn't win, but when I lose to a guy like Pete it hurts less than two years ago. Two years ago, I knew I had a good chance, but today he was just too good."

There were no service breaks in the first set two sets, but Sampras dominated both tiebreakers.

"He was always one step better than me in the tiebreaker," Ivanisevic said. "He put more first serves in, he put more returns in, and that's it."

Auriol wins Rally of Argentina by a whisker

CORDOBA, Argentina (R) — France's Didier Auriol, driving a Toyota, won the Rally of Argentina in the closest finish to a world championship rally in five years.

Auriol fought a three-day duel with Spain's Carlos Sainz, in a Subaru, in which they exchanged the lead six times.

Auriol pulled out 10 seconds when Sainz hit tyre and steering trouble on the longest stage of the final day, and won the rally by just six seconds.

"We had a lot of pressure today with Carlos. I tried more than 100 per cent. It is one of my best victories," Auriol said afterwards.

His victory has extended Toyota's lead in the world championship for manufacturers, while Sainz's second place has given him a five-point lead in the driver's standings.

Third place went to Finland's Ari Vatanen in a Ford, he moved up the order when his countryman, world champion Juha Kankkunen, retired his Toyota six stages from the finish with electrical failure. It was Vatanen's first rally in Argentina since a near-fatal accident in 1985 that put him out of the sport for more than a year.

He celebrated his return with the second fastest time on the stage that all but cost him his life nine years ago.

ORLANDO, Florida (AFP) — The Netherlands will have to call upon their stomach for a battle rather than their

reputation for stylish football when they take on the Republic of Ireland in a World Cup second round match

here Monday.

Under coach Dick Advocaat the Dutch have developed greater fighting qualities, but that will be put to a double test against Jack Charlton's Irish spoiling and the oppressive Florida heat.

"Playing nice football isn't as good as playing for a result," Advocaat said Saturday.

"We can't play the type of football we would like to because of the heat. Playing for a result is most important."

"We have two European teams playing here so the conditions will affect us both, unlike our game against Morocco," added Advocaat of the closing Group F game

they won only after a night

Man for man, in terms of quality, technique and definite ability, the Irish may be second best to the Dutch. But who would beat against them?

If they upset the odds here they will meet favourites Brazil in the quarter-finals in Dallas next Saturday.

In eight World Cup games — five in 1990 and three in the U.S. — the Irish have lost only twice and conceded five goals. Charlton said: "No body should take anything for granted. Everyone expects Brazil to beat the United States and the Netherlands to beat us. But that

might not be the case.

"We have played three games against the Dutch in four years and their team hasn't changed that much. We know more about them individually than any other team."

"Who have fully justified our presence here by qualifying through a very difficult group. You could have got odds against us doing it. It is still difficult for us, in the second phase but I said from the very beginning that if we got there we would be dangerous since the pressure would be off."

"We'll see what happens next but we've already got a solid sense of achievement. We've now gone to the second phase of two World Cups and we would like to go a bit further."

Ireland are expected to gamble on defender Paul McGrath who missed the last month of his English club Aston Villa's season and several vital warm-up internationals with a damaged shoulder which is still troubling him.

The success of McGrath's defensive partnership with Phil Babb has been one of the biggest plusses of the competition for Charlton. He had plenty of doubts about both players not so long ago.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
& YANNAH HIRSHI
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQJ1063 ♣J9874 ♦QJ
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQJ1063 ♣J9874 ♦QJ
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQJ1063 ♣J9874 ♦QJ
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQJ1063 ♣J9874 ♦QJ
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQJ1063 ♣J9874 ♦QJ
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQJ1063 ♣J9874 ♦QJ
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Q.7—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQJ1063 ♣J9874 ♦QJ
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Q.8—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQJ1063 ♣J9874 ♦QJ
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

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